

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

. . . . No. 44.

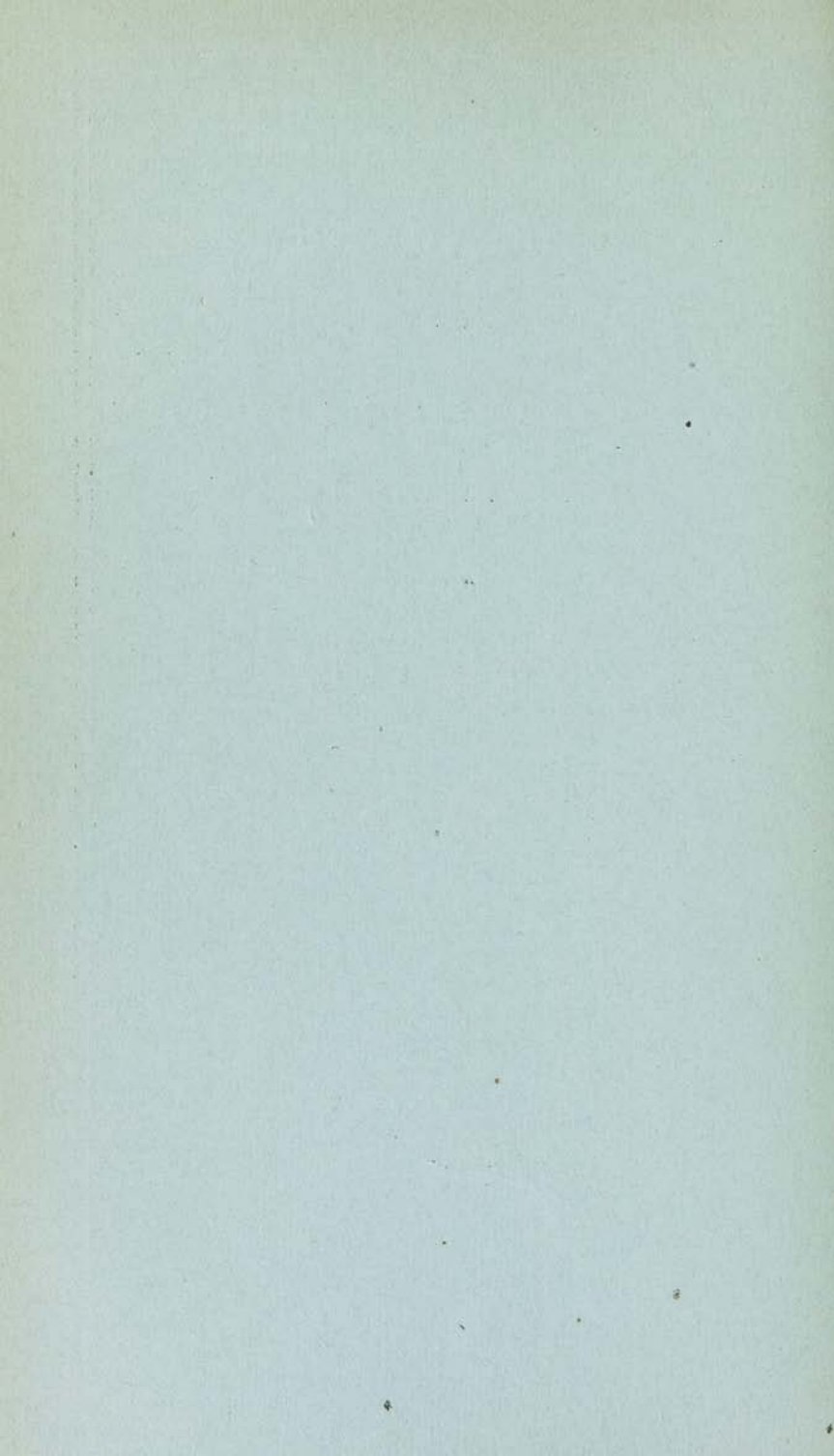
027M
F85
1906
B

SEVENTEENTH REPORT
OF THE
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMISSION
OF
MASSACHUSETTS.

1907.



BOSTON:
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,
18 POST OFFICE SQUARE.
1907.



SEVENTEENTH REPORT

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMISSION

OF

MASSACHUSETTS.:

=

1907.



BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,
18 POST OFFICE SQUARE.

1907.

C
S

STATE LIBRARY OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEC 31 1918

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON

Mass Officials

APPROVED BY
THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

YOUNG STATE
70
ST. BOURGASSAM

027M3

F852

1906

B

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

C. B. TILLINGHAST, <i>Chairman</i> , Boston, . . .	term expires 1910.
MRS. MABEL SIMPKINS AGASSIZ, Yarmouth, . . .	term expires 1909.
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN, Worcester, . . .	term expires 1909.
DELORAINÉ P. COREY, Malden, . . .	term expires 1908.
Miss E. P. SOHIER, <i>Secretary</i> , Beverly, . . .	term expires 1907.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 347 of the Acts of the year 1890, under which the Free Public Library Commission was organized, the commission herewith presents its seventeenth report, covering the calendar year 1906.

THE COMMISSION.

No change has taken place in the commission during the year.

BOOKS FURNISHED TO LIBRARIES.

The final installment of books under the provisions of chapter 233 of the Acts of 1900 has been supplied to the following towns during the year: —

Dana,	Monterey,	Peru,
Goshen,	Montgomery,	Phillipston,
Halifax,	Mount Washington,	Plainfield,
Hawley,	New Ashford,	Sunderland,
Lakeville,	New Braintree,	Tolland,
Leyden,	Otis,	Tyngsborough. — 18.

A first installment has been sent to the town of Savoy.

The following towns have not yet availed themselves of the benefit of the law: Auburn, Boylston, Clarksburg, Middleton, Shutesbury, Southampton and Washington, and a second installment is due to the towns of Brimfield, Gay Head and Lanesborough.

TOWNS CLASSIFIED AS TO LIBRARIES.

The following classification of the towns, revised to date, shows the free library facilities they now enjoy:—

CLASS 1.

Towns which have libraries owned and controlled by the town and free for circulation to all the people.

Abington,	Charlton,	Freetown,
Acushnet,	Chelmsford,	Gay Head,
Adams,	Chelsea,	Gill,
Agawam,	Chester,	Goshen,
Alford,	Chesterfield,	Gosnold,
Amesbury,	Chicopee,	Granby,
Andover,	Chilmark,	Granville,
Arlington,	Clarksburg,	Greenfield,
Ashburnham,	Clinton,	Greenwich,
Ashby,	Cohasset,	Groton,
Ashland,	Colrain,	Groveland,
Athol,	Conway,	Hadley,
Attleborough,	Dalton,	Halifax,
Auburn,	Dana,	Hamilton,
Avon,	Dartmouth,	Hampden,
Bellingham,	Dedham,	Hancock,
Belmont,	Deerfield,	Hanover,
Berkley,	Dennis,	Hanson,
Berlin,	Dighton,	Hardwick,
Beverly,	Douglas,	Harvard,
Blackstone,	Dover,	Hatfield,
Blandford,	Dracut,	Hawley,
Bolton,	Dudley,	Heath,
Boston,	Dunstable,	Holbrook,
Bourne,	East Bridgewater,	Holden,
Boxborough,	Eastham,	Holland,
Boylston,	East Longmeadow,	Holliston,
Bridgewater,	Edgartown,	Hopedale,
Brimfield,	Egremont,	Hubbardston,
Brockton,	Erving,	Hudson,
Brookfield,	Essex,	Hull,
Brookline,	Everett,	Huntington,
Burlington,	Fall River,	Hyde Park,
Cambridge,	Falmouth,	Kingston,
Canton,	Fitchburg,	Lakeville,
Carlisle,	Florida,	Lancaster,
Carver,	Foxborough,	Lanesborough,
Charlemont,	Framingham,	Leicester,

Leominster,	Northampton,	Shutesbury,
Leverett,	North Andover,	Somerset,
Leyden,	North Attleborough,	Somerville,
Longmeadow,	Northborough,	Southampton,
Lowell,	North Brookfield,	Southborough,
Ludlow,	Northfield,	Southbridge,
Lunenburg,	North Reading,	South Hadley,
Lynn,	Norwood,	Southwick,
Lynnfield,	Oakham,	Spencer,
Manchester,	Orange,	Sterling,
Mansfield,	Orleans,	Stoneham,
Marblehead,	Otis,	Stoughton,
Marlborough,	Oxford,	Stow,
Marshfield,	Paxton,	Sturbridge,
Mashpee,	Peabody,	Sudbury,
Mattapoisett,	Pelham,	Sunderland,
Maynard,	Pepperell,	Sutton,
Medfield,	Peru,	Swampscott,
Medford,	Phillipston,	Swansea,
Medway,	Plainfield,	Taunton,
Melrose,	Plympton,	Templeton,
Mendon,	Prescott,	Tewksbury,
Merrimac,	Provincetown,	Tolland,
Middleborough,	Quincy,	Topsfield,
Middlefield,	Reading,	Townsend,
Middleton,	Revere,	Truro,
Milford,	Richmond,	Tyngsborough,
Millbury,	Rochester,	Tyringham,
Millis,	Rockland,	Upton,
Milton,	Rockport,	Uxbridge,
Monroe,	Rowe,	Wakefield,
Montague,	Rowley,	Wales,
Monterey,	Royalston,	Walpole,
Montgomery,	Russell,	Waltham,
Mount Washington,	Rutland,	Warwick,
Nahant,	Salisbury,	Watertown,
Natick,	Sandisfield,	Wayland,
Needham,	Sandwich,	Webster,
New Ashford,	Saugus,	Wellfleet,
New Bedford,	Savoy,	Wendell,
New Braintree,	Seekonk,	Wenham,
Newburyport,	Sharon,	Westborough,
New Marlborough,	Sheffield,	West Boylston,
New Salem,	Shelburne,	West Bridgewater,
Newton,	Sherborn,	West Brookfield,
Norfolk,	Shirley,	Westford,
North Adams,	Shrewsbury,	Westminster,

West Newbury,	Whately,	Winchendon,
Weston,	Whitman,	Winchester,
Westport,	Wilbraham,	Windsor,
West Springfield,	Williamsburg,	Winthrop,
West Stockbridge,	Williamstown,	Worcester,
Westwood,	Wilmington,	Wrentham. — 274.
Weymouth,		

CLASS 2.

Towns which have free libraries in which the town has some representation in the management.

Acton,	Franklin,	Methuen,
Ayer,	Georgetown,	Norton,
Barre,	Grafton,	Palmer,
Bedford,	Haverhill,	Pembroke,
Belchertown,	Hingham,	Petersham,
Bernardston,	Hinsdale,	Pittsfield,
Boxford,	Holyoke,	Randolph,
Braintree,	Lawrence,	Salem,
Concord,	Lenox,	Springfield,
Cumington,	Lexington,	Warren,
Danvers,	Lincoln,	Wellesley,
Easthampton,	Littleton,	Westfield,
Enfield,	Malden,	Woburn. — 39.

CLASS 3.

Towns in which there are free libraries to which the town appropriates money, but is not represented in the management.

Amherst,	Great Barrington,	Princeton,
Ashfield,	Harwich,	Scituate,
Brewster,	Lee,	Stockbridge,
Chatham,	Monson,	Tisbury,
Cheshire,	Nantucket,	Ware,
Cottage City,	Northbridge,	Westhampton,
Duxbury,	Plymouth,	West Tisbury. — 22.
Gardner,		

CLASS 4.

Towns in which there are free libraries which have no connection with the town.

Barnstable,	Gloucester,	Raynham,
Becket,	Hopkinton,	Rehoboth,
Billerica,	Ipswich,	Wareham,
Buckland,	Marion,	Worthington,
Easton,	Norwell,	Yarmouth. — 16.
Fairhaven,		

CLASS 5.

Towns which have the free use of public libraries in other places.

Newbury,	.	.	.	Newburyport Public Library.
Washington,	.	.	.	Becket Athenæum. — 2.

CLASS 6.

Town having no free public library.

Plainville.

NOTES OF LIBRARY PROGRESS.

The following notes, collected from a large number of libraries, are worthy of careful study. They tell at first hand the story of the growth and progress of the free public libraries, and the spirit and sentiment which underlie the library system of Massachusetts.

ACTON. An increase in the circulation is noted. A portrait of Mrs. Mehitable Piper, the only known centenarian of Acton, has been presented. Free access to the shelves has been allowed; and it is now requested that borrowers shall remain in the alcoves only long enough to make their selections. "The book room is not intended for a reception room, and the continual presence of such visitors annoys and delays the work of the librarian."

ACUSHNET. The Millicent Library of Fairhaven has presented about 300 of its rejected books. A larger supply of books and an increasing circulation make it urgently necessary that better accommodations be provided.

AMESBURY. The circulation has increased, and the work with the schools has been more satisfactory than ever before. The use of the library for reference work by the pupils of the public schools increases. Scholars are allowed as many books for home use as they need. Teachers are allowed as many study cards as they wish and may hold the books for a reasonable time.

AMHERST. Amherst Public Library. A gift of \$500 for an endowment fund from Miss Sarah P. Ferry is reported.

North Amherst Library. The Dewey classification has been adopted, and a card catalogue is being made. The will of Mrs. Ellen Fisher of North Amherst contains a bequest of \$4,000 for this library. The income is to be used at the discretion of the trustees, except that as much as possible shall be used for books.

ANDOVER. There was a slight decrease in the home circulation of 1905. Sixteen volumes of the "Boston Evening Transcript" have been bound. Books are delivered to the schools and by carriers to four outlying districts. Ballard Holt, who had served the library as librarian for a period of thirty-three years, resigned Sept. 1, 1906, and has been succeeded by Miss Edna A. Brown. Miss Brown is a graduate of the New York State Library School, with an honorary degree, and has had experience in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg, in the Providence Public Library, and assisted in organizing the new Rosenberg Library in Galveston, Tex.

ARLINGTON. An arrangement with the Booklovers' Library has enabled the library to supply the public with a larger amount of the latest fiction than was otherwise possible, and more non-fiction has been purchased than formerly. Six sets of stereopticon views have been introduced for use by the schools and others. Frequent exhibitions of the pictures of the Library Art Club have continued.

ASHBY. The will of Mrs. Mary R. Hall of Keene, N. H., widow of the late William C. Hall of Boston, contains a bequest of \$3,000 for the benefit of this library. A catalogue, prepared by the librarian, has been issued, which is "worthy of the library and sufficient for its needs for many years."

ASHLAND. There was an increase of about 45 per cent. in the circulation of 1905; and the use of the reading room showed a gain of about 25 per cent. Although the general demand is for fiction, there is a noticeable increase in the call for books for study and reference. The librarian reports: "The open stack room has proved a signal success; if the wear of the books is somewhat greater, this is more than offset by the enjoyment and knowledge gained by being literally 'in touch' with the books." A shelf list is being prepared.

ATHOL. After some delay, following the resignation of Miss Hinman at the close of 1904, Mrs. May A. Cook was engaged. The circulation of 1905 was somewhat less than that of the previous year, but showed an increase during the late months of the year, which has been continued during the present year. The reading tables are well used and are frequently crowded. A special effort is being made to increase school and reference work. A picture collection is being made for study clubs and school work.

ATTLEBOROUGH. The amount of funds pledged towards the erection of a library building being sufficient to warrant, work was begun in April, 1905, and it is probable that the building will be completed about January 1. The architects are McLean & Wright of Boston. Reading lists have been published in the daily papers

and posted in the library for the benefit of the young; and lists of new books have been published as current news items in the papers, and copies of these have been struck off for distribution. Books are sent twice a month to six outlying schools.

AYON. An increased circulation is reported. In response to a popular demand for nature and out-of-door books, many have been purchased, and have been used in a fair degree. The greatest demand is for works of fiction. This demand is not especially for new fiction, and it appears that the greater number of books taken from this class are by the writers of a previous generation. Juvenile books of a good character are always in favor. "We find that our young readers have a high standard of their own, and we can thank the home and school training which they receive for this admirable quality." A plan is under consideration whereby the present desire to pursue an education outside of the schools and along specific lines may be permitted. The idea is to introduce collections of text-books for beginners at law, medicine and the applied sciences of electricity and civil engineering, and to increase each collection as the demand for advanced books increases. The necessity of a complete catalogue of the library, embracing late additions, is quite apparent.

AYER. The capacity of the reading room is being taxed to provide for its patrons. The trustees make a plea for the collection of articles of local historic interest. Pictures of India, loaned by the Woman's Education Association, have been exhibited.

BARNSTABLE. Osterville Public Library. The will of Gustavus Hinckley of Barnstable contains a bequest of \$100 for the use of the library. By the efforts of a summer visitor, a fund of about \$300 has been accumulated for the purpose of building an addition for a children's room, which will cost about \$600.

Centreville Free Public Library Association. A fair was held in 1905, resulting in a profit of about \$250, which covered the expenses of the library for about two years.

BARRE. The will of Mrs. Martha M. Macullar, widow of the late Addison Macullar of Boston and Worcester, contains a bequest of \$1,000, to be known as the Macullar Memorial Fund, the income of which is to be used in the purchase of books for this library.

BECKET. One hundred volumes, selected by the library, have been presented by Norman W. Harris of Chicago.

BEDFORD. The home circulation, especially among the children, has increased. Miss Sarah Goode has given a collection of photographs; and the will of William J. Niles of Bedford contains a

bequest of \$5,000, the income of which is to be used in the purchase of books. A card catalogue is nearly or quite completed.

BELCHERTOWN. A collection of books belonging to the late John Henry Stone has been presented by his son, George Stone of Enfield, which is to be kept apart from the general collection. Books needed for supplementary and other work in the public schools are purchased so far as the funds will permit; and teachers and pupils have special privileges. "The open-shelf system is still operative. While it is in many ways an advantage, in others it is detrimental, as books are displaced and sometimes lost by careless readers. Those who make good use of the privilege are careful in the use of the books."

BELLINGHAM. The new room to which the library was removed in 1905 gives ample space for the library and a reading room; and by its proximity to the schools in the building the use of the books by the children has been increased. The open-shelf system is in use, and special privileges are allowed to summer visitors. During the school vacation, a "reading journey" was arranged, the children reading for fifteen minutes during each library session in such books of travel as they had, themselves, chosen for their journeys. A bulletin board, with criticisms of leading books and with newspaper clippings treating of current events, is used. The latter prompts reference reading.

BELMONT. The circulation of 1905 was a little less than that of 1904, but still showed a considerable increase over that of 1903. The number of books issued to teachers was about doubled. A complete list of all educational books in the library has been printed and distributed to the teachers. A large gain in the use of the children's room is reported. A delivery station has been established at Payson Park.

BERKLEY. A new catalogue has been printed and distributed. A growing interest in the library is shown by the pupils of the public schools.

BEVERLY. "Space, light, air and opportunity to consult the books in the reading room are sadly wanting; in order to correct this last evil, to some extent, two rooms have been hired in the Endicott building, to which the reference books and magazines have been moved, giving a little needed relief to the crowded shelves. Many students and magazine readers are hereby accommodated, while the reading room in the library is left for teachers, children and those consulting the newspapers, by whom it is overfilled." The libraries in the schools are much used, and the circulation therefrom is highly satisfactory. The home circulation of 1905 showed

a slight loss. Miss Ellen S. Hooper has given \$50, to be used for a memorial of Mrs. Whitman, a lamented and public citizen; and Miss Quiner, the sculptress, formerly of Marblehead and later of Beverly, has given the bust of her father, Abraham Quiner, and the portrait of herself by Frothingham.

BLACKSTONE. The circulation of 1905 showed a slight increase over that of the previous year. Of the total issue, 93 per cent. was fiction.

BLANDFORD. Undesirable books and those for which there appears to be no use have been taken from the shelves, and the remainder rearranged in a systematic manner, so that the library is left in a good working condition. A card catalogue has been made which is proving to be of much benefit.

BOLTON. Miss Anna Whitney, in addition to previous gifts, has presented "a valuable antique clock and a cabinet containing a large collection of china ware, including many pieces of rich design and of value as antiques, and also other articles of historic value and interest." Teachers are allowed as many books for school use as they need, and some are retained during the term. Children are allowed to take books without regard to age. All persons who desire the privilege are given access to the shelves. Pictures have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association.

BOSTON. Six delivery stations, named as shop stations, have been discontinued, and new reading rooms have been established in their stead. "The substitution of reading rooms gives to the public more space, more books immediately at hand, regular supplies of periodicals where none were accessible before, and much better service generally. This implies a distinct gain in efficiency; and, as might be expected, all the new reading rooms show an increased circulation, as compared with that of the shop stations which were discontinued." A new and attractive building at Codman Square, Dorchester, has been opened as a reading room, and the nucleus of a permanent collection of books has been placed upon its shelves. In relation to losses from open shelves, the librarian says: "Another problem to which we are giving constant attention, but have not yet solved, is the prevention of losses from open shelves. This was mentioned in my last annual report. The advantages to the public of the open shelves are obvious. The disadvantages set forth last year need not again be mentioned. The actual loss during the last twelve months aggregates 843 from open shelves at branches, and 129 from closed shelves, open, however, to certain applicants. There is also a considerable loss from the larger reading rooms and from the deposit collection at the

stations. I have under consideration, and shall soon propose, certain restrictions which are likely to reduce these losses, without seriously impairing the open-shelf privilege. The ideal can never be reached until the abuses of the privileges are overcome." Of English prose fiction it is said: "The policy, now well established, of confining our purchases of current novels to those of the highest merit, as determined by a rather conservative standard, necessarily excludes a large number of recent publications, but the experience of several years has shown that nearly all of the works of fiction, which for various reasons we have found it impossible to buy, have failed to demonstrate their ability to live for a few brief months. The demand for some of them was insistent for a short time. Now their names are for the most part forgotten, and nobody cares to read them. If we had purchased a considerable number of these volumes, the money, so far as present demand is concerned, would have been wasted, and the books would have taken places on our shelves that are needed for literature of a more permanent character. . . . During the year, 774 volumes of English prose fiction were received from the publishers, and were considered carefully upon their merits, the reports of the volunteer committee as to plots, interest, general characteristics, etc., being taken into account, together with other factors determining the merit of the books and their suitability for our purposes. Of these, 161 titles were accepted and authorized for purchase, 1,230 copies being bought." Besides the purchase of current English fiction, replacements were bought to keep the collection, as catalogued, complete. It is shown that the number of volumes of fiction purchased in 1905-06 amounted to 32.68 per cent. of the total purchases, at a cost of 18.65 per cent. of the whole amount expended. An effort is made to complete, so far as is possible, the library's files of colonial and revolutionary newspapers; 1,084 numbers were purchased in 1905-06, of which 684 filled existing gaps in the files. Franklin imprints are purchased as opportunities occur. A new scheme for cataloguing laws and legislative documents has been prepared; and a beginning has been made in recataloguing and rearranging the collection of Massachusetts laws. Twenty-seven free public lectures were given during the year; and repeated exhibitions of pictorial art were given, in some cases concurrently with the lectures.

BOXFORD. Boxford Public Library. Extensive repairs have been made within the library building. Books are sent out to the public schools. A legacy of \$300 has been received under the will of the Rev. William S. Coggin, who was for many years the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Boxford.

BOYLSTON. This library is doing a commendable work in collecting books, manuscripts, plans and other matter connected with its local history. Portraits of prominent citizens have been placed upon the walls of the historical room. A card catalogue is being prepared. A very general use is "made of the library and reading room by the people of the town, and especially by the younger portion of the community. At the closing hour of the public schools, the library and reading room are very much patronized by the pupils from all sections of the town. The pupils attending the high schools in other places have also made much use of the library in securing reference matter in connection with their studies, and the librarians are always ready to assist them as much as possible in securing proper material, and giving such information as may be of value to them."

BRAINTREE. The will of the late Nathaniel H. Hunt, recently treasurer of the trustees, contains a bequest for the benefit of the library, the amount of which has not been made public.

BRIDGEWATER. The will of the late Miss Cora Thompson, a former trustee, contains a bequest of \$1,000 as an addition to the endowment fund of the library. Rev. William C. Winslow has given a complete set of the reports of the Archaeological Institute of America. The reference room continues to be one of the most helpful parts of the library.

BRIMFIELD. This library in its work emphasizes the value of the study of local history. The librarian says: "The importance of interesting our young people in local history cannot be overestimated, on account of impressing them with the value of what they have received from the past. Our library, with its treasures of material, its associations with individuals who have contributed to its life and that of the town, and the historical connection of the memorial building, should be more and more a power for strengthening the consciousness of citizenship." A traveling library of the Woman's Education Association, with accompanying photographs, was enjoyed for a year. All the works on American history have been thoroughly catalogued by author, title and subject, this department having been chosen first to aid teachers and pupils in their school work. This library has been successful in accomplishing work and obtaining results in divers directions by the use of means which are within the reach of most small libraries. The librarian writes: "It may be a help to libraries of limited means to know that we have nearly completed cataloguing about 5,000 volumes by gradual work and by means of gifts of money from time to time. There has been no special appropriation by the town, and the library has not been closed. The process has been extended, by periods,

through several years. Three different librarians at different times have worked with the local librarian. They have been secured during their vacation times, or when they could be spared from their regular work. The first year, our library was classified and shelf-list cards written. Two years after, United States history and fiction were catalogued. This year, nearly all of the remaining classes have been completed. If it is determined to have any enterprise in behalf of the library accomplished, I believe it can be carried out in time." The social side of library work is given prominence. Efforts are made to bring townspeople and visitors together, both formally and informally. On occasions bringing strangers into the village, such as school reunions, farmers' institutes or grange meetings, the library is opened and made inviting to all. "Townspeople, who, perhaps, do not often visit the library, feel at such times a new sense of possession and pride in their library and a united interest in the institution."

BROCKTON. The circulation of 1905 showed a gain in all departments, and there was an increased use of the children's room and library. The librarian writes: "For some time past the library has felt the need of larger quarters. Early in the year some relief was afforded by obtaining two storerooms, somewhat separated from the central library rooms and yet sufficiently near to be easily reached. With the opening of the new school year an unusual interest on the part of the teachers has been shown in the circulation of books to the schools. The value of the school collection seems already to be well established, and interest in it extends each year to various teachers in the city schools. New books are added to the collection from time to time; but, owing to numerous demands upon the general library appropriation, the rate of increase is necessarily slow. During the summer months just passed the renumbering of the books in the school collection by the decimal system was undertaken, and this work is now being completed. During the school year the librarian has given special attention to the reference room and to the answering of reference questions. There has been an attempt to introduce scholars from the high school and from the higher grades of the grammar schools to the use of the reference room by way of short talks about the reference collection and some of the more useful reference books. The library, as a whole, is being reclassified by the decimal system, and at the present time the reclassified groups include the books of travel, biography, language and the major portion of the volumes on religion. The rapid growth of the city has been reflected in the increase of registered borrowers, and this, again, has had its effect upon the

juvenile circulation and the circulation through the two branches, both of which show marked gains. During the summer months the library issued vacation cards to those of its borrowers who were leaving town for extended vacations."

BROOKLINE. In relation to Sunday opening, the librarian writes: "We have kept the circulating department, as well as the reading and reference rooms, open on Sundays for nearly a year, and this year we have kept open on Sundays even in July and August. We made the hours 2 to 6 P.M. during those months, instead of 2 to 9 P.M. This increase of Sunday privileges has been so successful that we feel that we are now open to stay. We made the change, not only to circulate books, but to open the alcoves to the public, and thereby encourage the reading of literature other than periodicals and newspapers." In reference to the work with the schools, the assistant in charge writes: "In addition to a personal card and a study card allowing 5 books of non-fiction, there is issued to any teacher a card for class-room use. On this may be drawn, from the school duplicate collection or from the general library, books on subjects studied or wholesome recreative reading for children. It is optional with each teacher whether the books be used at school or loaned to pupils to take home. Nominally, 20 books may be borrowed at one time, but where the supply for other teachers permits, 40 to 50 volumes are not infrequently taken. Books may be kept four weeks, and then, with some exceptions, renewed. Express charges are paid by the library when not fewer than 20 books are sent at one time; smaller numbers are carried to and fro by pupils or by teachers themselves. The school reference room at the library is connected with the schools by telephone; and the selection of books sent is often made by the library, at the teachers' request. A considerable number of elementary readers are kept in stock, and books for children who have but lately learned to read are extensively used. Kindergartens are supplied with picture books. The school reference room is open from 2 to 6 P.M. on every week day and also on Saturday mornings. This is a reference room for grammar school pupils, and contains, in addition to suitable reference books, the school duplicate collection. School duplicates are issued only to teachers, not directly to pupils from the room, but additional copies of most books are to be found in the circulating department of the general library or in the children's room."

CAMBRIDGE. The most important event of the year has been the opening of a new branch library in North Cambridge, on November 5. It occupies one large room on the second floor of the remodeled

police station No. 4, having a location similar to that of the East Cambridge branch library in the building of police station No. 3. Owing to the smallness of the appropriation only a meagre showing of books could be made at the start, and only the bare necessities of equipment could be provided. This equipment, however, is modern in detail and satisfactory in most respects, with electric lighting for the five long tables and the ceiling, and combination electric and gas lighting for the walls of the room. The new assistant in charge is Miss Ellen M. Hayes, whose previous experience of five years at the delivery desk of the main library will be of great service to her in the development of the branch. The popularity of the branch has exceeded all expectations. The long room has been crowded, afternoon and evening, to such an extent that two and sometimes three assistants have been called for. A circulation of 3,740 books within three weeks from the time of opening, in spite of the meagre supply, proves that the new branch is trying to fill a long-felt need. The main library afforded temporary relief by giving a considerable number of duplicates, and by loaning special lots of its own books, new and old, to the number of more than 600, two-thirds of the books being juvenile. Permanent relief can come only through a large increase in the appropriation for the coming year. A new registration of card holders was begun in May, after an interval of about five years. This was preparatory to the introduction of the Newark charging system in August, in place of the old slip system, a change welcomed especially by the public. Seven appointments on the staff were made during the year, including a second assistant cataloguer and an assistant janitor. With an increase in the cataloguing force more continuous work on the reclassification of the old books in the basement of the stack was possible, books in French receiving chief attention. In connection with the commemoration by the Cambridge Historical Society of the two hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the settlement of the city, Dec. 21, 1905, was issued a special supplement to the monthly bulletin on "Books, Pamphlets, etc., relating to Cambridge." Among other special lists, those of "Fifty books for older boys" and "Fifty books for older girls" were designed to bridge over the gap between the juvenile and the adult age, the books on the lists being placed on special shelves of the delivery room. In addition to the regular school delivery, the work with the schools took, in midwinter, a new turn. The pupils of the ninth grade of all the grammar schools and of the two parochial schools came, one afternoon each grade, to the library for instruction in the work of the library, and especially in the use of the card

catalogue and of reference books. After the talk, the pupils were shown, in relays, about the whole building. The traveling libraries have been increased to 15, the last 3 being smaller than the regular ones deposited at the local stations. During the summer, the count for the traveling libraries passed, for the first time, that of the local delivery from the main library by a large margin. Two social settlements and two fire stations have become deposit stations, and two men's clubs have received the newer traveling libraries. The library is reaching out in a new way by its arrangement to have the council meetings of the Cambridge Historical Society, and also some of the meetings of the D. A. R., held in the trustees' room; and the Cambridge room is being made the depository of their books and other material. The total increase in circulation for the year ending November, 1906, is nearly 13,000 over that of the previous year, the figures being, respectively, 228,779 and 241,462.

CANTON. The sum of \$1,500 towards the expenses of administration and maintenance of the library in 1906 was contributed by Augustus Hemenway. The exhibitions of the collections of the Library Art Club are much studied, and will be continued. Additions are being made to the collection of Massachusetts town histories; and gifts of ancient maps, chiefly of local interest, have been received. The history of Canton is receiving attention; and the Canton Historical Society has offered prizes for a public competition to encourage "a knowledge of the town's history, and that good citizenship which grows naturally from such knowledge." This is confined to pupils of the junior and senior grades of the public schools.

CARVER. The present quarters are not equal to the requirements of the library, and more shelf room is needed. A branch was established at Bates Pond in 1905; but that and the branch at North Carver have been suspended in consequence of the removal of their former custodians. They will be reopened when proper arrangements can be made. The pupils of the schools, the aged and the sick are favored by allowing them as many books as they can use, to be retained as long as they are needed, without fines.

CHARLEMONT. The circulation of 1905 showed a liberal increase. The librarian pays a tribute to the children of the village schools. "Their constant presence at the library has been an inspiration and real help. They have been granted equal rights with their elders, and have proved themselves worthy of the trust. They have given zealous and valuable help. One little school girl issued books, received them when returned, and kept the records and shelves in perfect order for weeks, while the librarian, unable to

fulfill her duties, rested in perfect assurance that, nevertheless, they would be faithfully discharged."

CHARLTON. The library was removed to its new room in the Dexter Memorial Hall in March, 1905; and the circulation of that year showed an increase of over 40 per cent. With an apparent steady increase of interest in the library, there seems to be a marked interest in profitable reading, which encourages the trustees to spare no pains to keep the institution up to as high a mark of usefulness as the appropriation of funds will allow. A portrait of William H. Dexter, the donor of the Dexter Memorial Hall, has been placed in the library. Gifts of books and pictures have been received from friends; and a collection of pictures from the Woman's Education Association has been exhibited.

CHELMSFORD. Adams Library. Charles H. Greenleaf, "after about ten years of service, in which he gave the library much unrequited care," resigned the position of librarian in June, 1905, and was succeeded by Edwin R. Clark.

CHELSEA. To test the popularity of the open shelves, a separate record was kept, and the result showed that over two-thirds of the books loaned from the fiction class were taken from those shelves. The open-shelf service is limited, only about 4 per cent. of the books being thus exposed. A card catalogue and an open shelf of new and other interesting books have been placed in the children's room.

CHESHIRE. Summer boarders are given the free use of the library. The Woman's Education Association has loaned a traveling library.

CHESTER. The circulation of 1905 exceeded that of any previous year. The available shelf room is all taken up, and a new book stack will be a necessity of the near future.

CHILMARK. The librarian says: "The past year (1905) has been an unusually prosperous one; and our modest little library is increasing in usefulness year by year." Mrs. M. L. Kobbe donated about 400 popular books, which are being extensively read; and several summer friends have made helpful donations.

CLINTON. The home circulation of 1905 showed a loss of 11 per cent. "There is an ever-increasing demand for works of fiction, and while the directors would be glad to note a greater call for books of a different character, they have placed upon the shelves this year a larger number of novels than ever before, appreciating the fact that in every community of busy people there must be many who read chiefly for recreation and amusement." Collections of photographs and other pictures have been exhibited from time to time, and have been viewed with interest and appreciation.

COHASSET. The directors of the Paul Pratt Memorial Library report a gift of \$3,000 from Charles A. Welch, which has been used to strengthen the weak places and fill up the empty spaces among the books. The temporary agreement between the trustees of the Cohasset Free Public Library, acting for the town, and the directors of the Paul Pratt Memorial Library, which expired in March, has been renewed for a further term of three years. By this agreement the latter library is the custodian of the books of the town library, the town retaining the ownership of such books and of all which may be purchased by town appropriations, and the income of town funds. By rules which have been adopted relating to the public schools, it appears that the directors are aiming at co-operation with the schools on broad and liberal lines. "The librarian is expected to co-operate with the teachers of the public schools and assist them in their work in every possible way." There is no restriction as to the number of books which may be taken by teachers, and, practically, no limit of time. Designated books for supplementary reading in school work shall be placed upon a table or shelves for use by the pupils in the library, and such books "shall be withdrawn from general circulation so long as they are needed for this purpose." Vacation privileges were granted during the summer, by which allowance was made for three books of fiction and two of non-fiction "which are not in great demand," to be retained not over six weeks. Two persons interested in library work have given together the sum of \$200. An increased use of the library by summer residents has been noticed during the past summer.

COLRAIN. Many more families are using the library than ever before, and those who have always taken books are reading more. The books are kept in a private house; but the time will soon come when a suitable library building must be provided, if the library is to continue to do good work and be of use to the people. The branches at East Colrain and Elm Grove have been suspended, but it is hoped that they will soon be reopened.

CONCORD. The schools make extensive use of the library; and the teachers may have an unlimited number of books for school work. At the West Concord school, which is the only school at a distance, a weekly delivery is made, which is used by the people of the neighborhood. At ten years of age children may have one book, and after entering the high school may have two, provided that but one is fiction. Two cards are allowed to adults; and a special card is given to those who require books for study, which allows three, four or six extra books.

DANA. Dana Centre Public Library. "The work of this library has been very active during the year; both old and young have shown much interest in reading matter, and their many different tastes are well supplied with books from the best authors and latest publications." The Petersham Memorial Library made a gift from its duplicate volumes.

DANVERS. A small musical collection of standard composers has been added to the library. Material for study clubs and for all the special days observed by the schools has been furnished, type-written lists being prepared in advance. Titles of all new books have been printed monthly in the "Salem News." During the present year, plans have been adopted for enlarging the work with the schools, and the town has made a special appropriation of \$450 for that purpose. Besides sending books to each school building for supplementary work, the distant schools are made delivery stations for the neighborhood. By this means many are reached who are far from the regular stations.

DARTMOUTH. Southworth Library. During the present year the town appropriation has been increased; the library is open more hours in the week and is in a flourishing condition, having largely increased its circulation.

DEDHAM. An annotated list of books for the use of the children of the public schools has been issued. The use of the Oakdale branch is rapidly increasing and demands a larger appropriation. At East Dedham is a reading room, formerly reported as a branch library, under the care of a school janitor, where books are kept for reference and not for circulation.

DEERFIELD. South Deerfield Town Library. The library has been moved into larger and more convenient rooms, uniting with the reading room. The 4 branch libraries are in school districts.

Dickinson Library. This library sends parcels of books from time to time to two outlying districts, West Deerfield and Stillwater, where they are distributed among the farmers' families.

DIGHTON. A delivery station has been established at Broad Cove, which has been most successful. The present library room is inadequate, and a larger and better room is needed to provide for the increase in books and patronage.

DOUGLAS. Miss Alice E. Luther, who had been a faithful librarian for many years, died Dec. 5, 1905; and Miss Vera H. Warner was chosen as her successor.

DOVER. Dover Town Library. An increased circulation in 1905 was "largely due to the use which the public school teachers made of the books. They took a large number of volumes from the library

to the schools, to be used by the pupils, changing them from time to time."

Barden Library. A system of family libraries is about to be put into operation. Small oak cases containing a collection of books, varied in character to meet the possible needs of the different members of a family, will be sent out, with suggestions as to their care and use.

DRACUT. There is a growing demand upon the library by the teachers and scholars of the public schools for books to be used in connection with their studies. A bequest of \$50 has been received.

DUNSTABLE. By the will of Mrs. Sarah Roby the town will receive a legacy of \$10,000 for the building of a library and town house. The library co-operates with the schools by purchasing books which are helpful to teachers and pupils, and by giving teachers access to the shelves at any time.

EAST BRIDGEWATER. A noticeable feature is the increasing number of school children who are constant users of the library. The Browne charging system has been adopted. In April the library received a bond for \$2,000 from the residuary legatees under the will of Nancy E. Rust, establishing the Rust Fund.

EASTHAM. Delivery stations, with fortnightly service, have been established in the north and south sections of the town. Crayon portraits of the late Robert C. Billings of Boston and the late Matthew Luce of Boston, one of the executors of the Billings estate, have been hung in the library.

EAST LONGMEADOW. The library has been recatalogued, and the charging system has been changed from the ledger method to cards. A building, or a room which the library could have to itself, is needed.

ENFIELD. An offer by Mrs. Cyrus F. Woods to erect a library building as a memorial of her husband has been accepted by the association. Because of this, and in order that the association may hold property and exercise the full rights and duties of a corporation, it has become incorporated under the general law as the Enfield Library Association.

EVERETT. Frederick E. Parlin Memorial Library. A steady loss in the home circulation since 1898 is reported without comment; but investigation shows that, while a decrease is shown at this library, the total circulation in the city has increased nearly 25 per cent. during that period. The opening of the Shute Memorial Library in 1899 attracted most of the readers of the populous eastern section of the city, and a circulation was begun there which has increased each year. More room for the children is needed to

accommodate the large attendance of readers. The library grounds have been largely improved, at the expense of Albert N. Parlin of Boston, the donor of the building. James Skinner, to whom "in a special sense belongs the credit of founding the Everett Public Library," and Henry A. Tenney, both trustees and former chairmen of the board, died in 1905.

Shute Memorial Library. This library finds itself with increasing circulation, and inconvenient and cramped space for the children; and the trustees renew their former wise recommendation for the taking of adjacent land for a future extension. The librarian commends the open shelf, but mentions the disarrangement of books, which causes more labor on the part of the assistants. The work with the schools progresses, and the teachers are working better with the library.

FAIRHAVEN. Reference work has increased in a great degree and seems to show a better understanding in the community at large of how to use books, and a wider, more healthy interest in affairs present and past, and especially in art. Selected lists of books and periodicals have been prepared to accompany the study programmes of local reading clubs and general courses in the schools. The collection of fiction has been carefully revised, attention being given to merit, condition and degree of use. The literature section of the A. L. A. catalogue, covering about 2,000 volumes, has been distributed and used as a finding list. Special exhibits in varied lines, including those of the collections of the Library Art Club, have been given. The report of the librarian contains some timely remarks upon the uses of the children's room, and the prevalent abuses which are common in all libraries, especially of the dangers of over-reading, and the sometimes evil advantage which is taken of the evening use.

FALL RIVER. The work of preparing a card catalogue preparatory to issuing a printed catalogue is nearly completed. A large addition has been made to the shelving in the stack room and more is needed. The demands on the reference library constantly increase, and the facilities of the reading room are taxed to the utmost. These rooms are open to the public on Sundays from October to May, both inclusive, and this privilege appears to be greatly appreciated. The children's room has become one of the most important departments of the library. It contains over 7,500 volumes, to which card holders have direct access.

FALMOUTH. Falmouth Free Public Library. Delivery stations have been established by this library at Waquoit and East Falmouth.

FITCHBURG. The circulation of 1905 showed a loss below the records of the previous two years. A reduced appropriation caused a

reduction in expenditures, especially in the purchase of new books. Books in German, French and Swedish have been furnished, and now the needs of the Finns, the Italians and the Hebrews are under consideration. A finding list of the Jenk's collection of music was published in the early part of the present year. Under the auspices of the Woman's Club, an exhibition of paintings by Boston artists was held in May. At the beginning of the present school year, a circular letter was sent to the public school teachers of the city, inviting full use of the library. By the rules, teachers may have cards on which 6 books may be taken at one time. A teacher, "upon the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, may take from the library 25 books at one time, especially for the use of the pupils. Books taken on these special cards may be kept four weeks, and shall be upon subjects connected with the studies of the schools."

FOXBOROUGH. The will of Mrs. S. Almira Alden contains a bequest of \$500 for the purchase of books, which becomes operative upon the death of her son. Teachers and scholars are assisted in their work by the use of all the resources of the library.

FRANKLIN. The number of persons taking books for home use increased about 33 per cent. in 1905, and the circulation showed an excess of about 65 per cent., for which "much is due to the free access to the books, and the comfort and attractions of the Ray Memorial Building." The children's room was opened for use in January, 1906. Mrs. Peirce and Mrs. Thayer, the donors of the building, have completely furnished this room, and placed 1,500 volumes upon its open shelves. The books were purchased with money which the late Joseph G. Ray deposited in 1848, when sixteen years of age, in a savings bank. The original deposit of \$75 had increased to \$1,087.08 when used.

GARDNER. "The school libraries are proving themselves a most important factor in developing a taste for reading among the pupils. In many cases the children are too young to go far for their books, and with these at hand they may learn to find some resource for an idle hour or a dull evening other than the streets and doubtful companionship. With the kind co-operation of some of the teachers, an effort has been made to keep in touch with each child and know what he is reading, and it is gratifying to note an increasingly wide range in their selection. In some schools there is less of fiction read than of other classes. Books of travel seem to be the favorites, and biography and nature books are much in demand." Later, the librarian writes: "The number of school libraries has been increased, and the children, as heretofore, keep a record of the books they read, which is examined by

the librarian, those of marked excellence being exhibited in the central library. The average of reading in such schools is far higher in character than that of those children who borrow from the central library without special supervision. In each school a deputy librarian and two assistants are appointed among the pupils, who relieve the teachers of much of the responsibility, and by their enthusiasm add much to the effectiveness of the work. Personal visits are made to the schools by the librarian." The home circulation in 1905 slightly exceeded the high limit of the previous year. There was a large increase in the circulation of the books of the Bodley Library.

GLOUCESTER. Village Hall Library, Annisquam. An increase in its number of books has caused a removal to a larger room. Although this is a subscription library, all school children are now admitted free to its privileges. Books of reference on subjects connected with nature studies have been provided, and a competitive interest has been excited among the children and residents of the village. Prizes are to be awarded next summer for the best collections of natural objects.

GRAFTON. An increase in the library hours has been of much convenience, and has led to the spending of more time in the library, to an increasing acquaintance with the books and a better knowledge of what is in the library, and especially to a much more constant use of the reference and reading rooms. A plan has been inaugurated for a larger use of the library by the pupils of the high school. The card catalogue has been brought up to date. It is reported that the will of the late Charles H. Nelson of Grafton provides that the town of Grafton shall receive upon the death of Mrs. Nelson \$75,000 in cash and his home estate for the purposes of a public library and a park.

GRANBY. A legacy of \$500 has been received from the estate of Mrs. Mary A. Kellogg.

GRANVILLE. The branch at Granville Centre has been continued and that at West Granville has been re-established. Small collections of books have been placed in the schoolhouses of four remote districts for the use of the inhabitants, as well as for the pupils of the schools. The teachers co-operate in the care and distribution of the books. The library was closed for six weeks in the fall of 1906 for the purpose of making a card catalogue.

GREAT BARRINGTON. The trustees have received a cash gift of \$100, for the purchase of books, from Mrs. G. D. Farrar; and about 500 volumes have been recently added to the library by purchase

and gift. Many books have been bought with direct reference to school use.

Housatonic. The heirs of the late Theodore G. Ramsdell, in carrying out his wishes, are building a memorial library building at Housatonic. The building, which will cost about \$25,000, is of gray brick and marble, with the interior finish of marble and oak. It will have a shelving capacity of 30,000 volumes. It is expected that it will be completed about the first of March; and it will be presented to the town of Great Barrington for the free use of its citizens.

GREENFIELD. Greenfield Public Library. A new library building is needed, as the collection of books "is too valuable to be so carelessly housed. More space will soon be an absolute necessity." The "duplicate collection" is a popular feature of the distributing methods of the library. Some of the most satisfactory work has been the use of reference books by the children. The library has received under the will of the late Anne W. Cushman a collection of about 100 volumes. Among these are books of genealogical value and some interesting first editions. Two new deposit stations have been established, there now being 6 in use. Five of these stations are in the district schools and the high school, and are cared for by the teachers. The other is a neighborhood library, doing good work, on the Bernardston road, and is in the care of Mrs. J. C. King.

Greenfield Library Association. This library has received a legacy of \$1,000 by the will of the late Mrs. William B. Washburn, widow of one of the founders of the library. There has been a large increase in the circulation during the past few years. The departments of fiction and biography have been rearranged. By the recent death of Mrs. George H. Hovey, a bequest of \$5,000 in the will of her sister, Mrs. Maria L. Hosmer of Brooklyn, N. Y., becomes available for the benefit of this association.

GROTON. The library is being recatalogued by the Dewey classification, with the Cutter-Sanborn tables. "In the circulation of books there has been no great change from previous years; but an increased use of reference books and books on special subjects within the library building has been noted with satisfaction. The reading room has been well patronized, and has undoubtedly been the means of disseminating much valuable information in regard to current events." A classified catalogue is desired. Twelve exhibitions of the collections of the Library Art Club were given in 1905.

GROVELAND. Borrowers are admitted to the shelves on application to the librarian. "This privilege has been accepted by many at each opening of the library, and has facilitated the work, as well as having been greatly appreciated." The subject of a reading room has been considered, and it is hoped that the time is not far distant when such a room may be established.

HAMPDEN. Mrs. Joanna Burleigh Holt of Stafford, a former resident of Hampden, has left by will the sum of \$500, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of books. There are no delivery stations; but the teachers in the outlying districts take a number of books for supplementary reading, and these are used in some cases by the families.

HANSON. The usefulness of the library has been largely extended by the branch libraries, which are furnishing books to citizens who were not formerly readers. Miss Drew of the North branch has succeeded, after several years, in collecting a complete set of town reports, an example which should be followed by every librarian in the State. Dr. L. Vernon Briggs of Boston has added to former gifts to the Hanson Library Association, forming a memorial of his sister, which is named the "Donation in Memory of Harriette S. Briggs." A list of books desirable for school use has been prepared at the South branch, and pupils are urged to make their selections from it.

HARDWICK. Paige Memorial Library. The Hardwick Free Town Library and the Lucius R. Paige Library have been consolidated under this name. The library building, built from funds left by the late Lucius R. Paige, D.D., has been completed, and was dedicated with appropriate exercises, June 27, 1906. The library has now about 600 volumes, in place of about 5,000 volumes which were lost in the fire of February, 1905. Miss Hannah R. Spooner, who had been librarian of the Ladies' Free Library Association and the succeeding libraries for over twenty-five years, resigned July 1, 1906, and has been succeeded by Miss Nettie C. Bridges.

Gilbertville Public Library. The circulation has increased, particularly among the school children.

HAVERHILL. There was a gain of about 11 per cent. in the circulation of 1905. The delivery room has been changed into an open-shelf room and furnished with about 1,200 volumes of new books. "Under present conditions, it is considered that this arrangement is as satisfactory for the casual reader as can be desired. Students are admitted freely to the stack, but with the present unclassified condition of the old part of the library, and the construction of the stack, the general public would derive no advantage from a com-

plete open-shelf arrangement, and the library would suffer a distinct loss from the disarrangement of the books, which are located only by number and not by subject." The children have access to all their books, by which the wear and tear are increased, and the confusion on the shelves adds to the difficulty of finding special books. In the purchase of books, those of short-lived popularity have been bought sparingly, and subscription books not at all. Large additions of first editions of Whittier and books about him have increased the Whittier collection, which is already large, and aims to become the best in existence. Particular attention has been paid to the collection of local history, especially that of northeastern Massachusetts. Everything relating to Haverhill or of Haverhill origin, including books, magazine articles, newspaper clippings, pictures, programmes, etc., has been eagerly sought. The school work has been carried on with continued success. The traveling libraries which are sent to the schools in the country districts are intended to be used by the neighborhood as well as by the school children. Books have been sent regularly to parochial schools, and admirably selected lists have come from those schools. A Hebrew club, whose object is educational, has been furnished with books, and good work has been done there by the enthusiastic men in charge. Standard Russian literature, in the Russian language, has been bought for this branch and has been largely used. The Washington Street branch has been removed to more commodious quarters on Washington Square, the most central location in the city. This branch is planned to be a complete library, with the best books for circulation and reference, and a good collection of newspapers and periodicals. "It was designed to meet the needs of the average men and women, chiefly those of the wage-earning and foreign classes. We feel that the object is being attained, as the circulation has increased and the attendance is good. The main library is not centrally located, but this branch is."

HINSDALE. The closing of the woolen mills has caused the removal of over 40 families, which will tend to diminish the circulation. The schools use the library to some extent, and the summer guests make use of it while in the town.

HOLBROOK. Continued growth and progress are reported, and the needs keep pace with the growth. The problem of shelf room becomes each year more difficult of solution. Every foot of available space has been measured and calculated, and books are crowded in inconvenient piles. A more quiet and commodious reading room is needed. The acceptance of the offer of a collec-

tion of costly engravings of the works of the old masters has been deferred until some safe place can be devised for it.

HOLLISTON. The trustees say: "The year now closed (1905) has been the best year in the history of the library, in attendance, in general interest, in circulation of books, and in educational value to readers of all ages and conditions in life. The reference department has received much attention, and is increasing in popularity and usefulness among the scholars in the public schools, as well as the adult visitors. Purchases of fiction have been limited to books of established reputation, or those especially noted in trustworthy reviews, although requests for new publications have been usually met when possible." The advanced classes in the public schools make good use of the reference department.

HOLYOKE. The circulation in the children's department increased 10 per cent. in 1905, and the number of juvenile applications was 33 per cent. larger than that of the previous year. A list of select children's books was printed, and an attractive certificate offered to those who read 6 of the listed books during the summer vacation. This was intended to induce better reading, and was very effective. Five hundred children chose most or all of their summer reading from the list, and over 200 won certificates. The use of the reference room is becoming more widely recognized and utilized by the citizens than formerly. The gift of over \$200 worth of books by the Medical Association is reported. Desirous of having available a collection of the best and latest works in their line, the association offered to purchase and present them if a suitable place for them could be furnished. The books have been received, catalogued and shelved, and are in use by physicians and nurses. Two hundred and eighty-six volumes in the French language received a circulation of 2,512 in about ten months.

HUBBARDSTON. The will of Mrs. Eliza Pierce Church of Newton contains a bequest of \$1,000 for the benefit of this library, the conditions of which have not been made public.

HUDSON. The new building, which was opened to the public in November, 1905, was an incentive to a larger use of the library, and the home circulation began to increase. Donations of books and other articles followed the removal; and the several literary clubs and the high school contributed furniture. More work is done with the schools than was possible in the former quarters. The reading room is freely used by adults, and the children's room is very popular with the young people. The library is now open on four week days.

HYDE PARK. The circulation of 1905 showed a liberal gain. The children's department shows an increase in use. "There has been the same interest and studiousness as during the previous year. Seven nationalities are sometimes represented in the room at the same time. A little fellow hugged the 'Story of the Flags' as he took it to the desk and inquired if the flag of Italy was there, and if he might take the book home. Even Benjamin Franklin, himself, might have been surprised if he had suddenly appeared when the library was being taxed for information about the man who used a kite to so good a purpose." Temporary residents are allowed to take books by making a deposit of \$2, which is refunded when they leave the town.

IPSWICH. The number of juvenile readers has been more than doubled by the removal of the age limit; and an increase in the use of the higher classes of reading is noticed in the general circulation. Teachers have special privileges, and there is a better co-operation between the library and schools.

KINGSTON. The library is used by the children of the schools, both directly and by books drawn by the teachers. Special collections of useful books, changed at intervals, are laid out where they will attract the children. The will of Byron C. Quimby of Kingston contains a bequest of \$500 for the use of the library. Portraits of Rev. Martin Parris, the schoolmaster of Kingston early in the last century, and his wife, bequeathed by Mrs. Mary Peckham of Kingston, have been hung upon the walls of the library.

LAKEVILLE. Additional space has been added to the room in the town hall building, giving, besides better light, room for more shelving; and a friend has contributed a reading table and chairs. A traveling library has been loaned by the Woman's Education Association. Non-residents are allowed the use of the library by paying a fee of 50 cents per annum.

LANCASTER. The home circulation showed a gain in 1905; but the school circulation made a loss, due to a long epidemic and "the absence of some teachers who interest themselves particularly in the children. . . . During December and January the librarian gave a course of lectures at the high school on the use of the library, the pupils taking notes. The school was divided into four classes, for practical work in the library. Questions were given them on the card catalogue, the periodical indexes and the reference books, and they were graded according to their work. . . . The pupils did exceedingly well and improved steadily. In this connection it is interesting to note the largely increased use of the library by

the high school pupils this year. They are coming to the library regularly and using the reference books much more than heretofore." The experiment of varnishing books, mentioned last year, has been especially successful with the juvenile books and those used in the schools.

LANESBOROUGH. This library is open to summer visitors, who make a small deposit, which may be returned if no loss or damage has occurred. A catalogue is being made, which will probably be printed. A crowded room is a serious disadvantage; but steps are being taken towards erecting a library building, and the sum of \$500 has already been offered for that purpose.

LAWRENCE. There was a gain in the circulation of 1905, and a largely increased use of the reference room. Books were sent to two vacation schools with excellent results. The librarian was empowered to grant the privileges of the library to non-residents, under certain conditions. The children's department is growing, and its call for "more books, many more, in fact, is as urgent as ever."

LEE. The library still depends upon the Tabard Inn for its supply of fiction. Teachers and pupils of the public schools are allowed access to the shelves and an extension of time on loans, if required in school work. Andrew Carnegie has given \$10,000 for a building, to which the town has added \$23,000; and land has been purchased for \$7,000, at the corner of Main and Franklin streets. A plan for a building, submitted by Henry S. Moul of Hudson, N. Y., has been accepted. The plan calls for a building 60 by 45 feet, with a wing in the rear for the book stack. The material will be of rock-faced marble from the Lee quarries, with cut trimmings. The front, on Main Street, will have a recessed entrance, with two large columns. A flight of steps will lead from the sidewalk to the grounds and another flight up to the entrance, the intervening space being on an incline sufficient to show the lawn from the street, which is low at this point. The structure will be unlike any building in western Massachusetts.

LEICESTER. The home circulation of 1905 at the central library exceeded that of 1904 by over 25 per cent., which was the largest increase of any year, with the exception of 1901, when it was slightly larger. The plan of placing graded lists of books in the schools "has not met with so hearty a response outside the center as the librarian and trustees had been led to expect. Enough, however, has been accomplished along that line to demonstrate the worth of such work and the value of the library as an educational force outside the ordinary channels." Valuable additions have been made to the reference library; and the books in that

department are freely used by students and club women. "Never before have the academy students used so intelligently and in such great numbers the works of reference in this room and the more important United States histories in the stack room."

LENOX. Five hundred volumes have been given as a memorial of the late Ethel Latimer Cram.

LEOMINSTER. The work of recataloguing is being continued. The use of the reference room is steadily growing, and many new books have been added, which will increase its usefulness. "The year's work has suffered from many interruptions; but the general result shows unusual progress, and makes, therefore, a satisfactory record for itself." A gift of \$500 from the estate of John C. Stratton, a former resident, is reported.

LEVERETT. A traveling library of the Woman's Education Association was kept at the Hillsborough branch during 1905.

LEXINGTON. The home circulation of 1905 exceeded that of the preceding year. The Browne system of charging has been adopted. The problem of a sufficient supply of ephemeral literature has been met by resort to the Book Lovers' Library and the Bodley Club; 177 volumes thus provided circulated 2,407 times. The new building has been completed, and was dedicated by brief and simple exercises on the afternoon of July 16, 1906, there being no public demonstration, in accordance with the wish of the donor. The dedicatory address was by Rev. Charles F. Carter, chairman of the trustees. The building, which overlooks the battle ground, follows the lines of a capital L. The basement, which is above ground, is of field stone from the Cary farm; and the upper structure is of brick, faced with a soft-toned gray concrete. The main entrance at the junction of the wings opens into an octagon vestibule, by which access is had to the delivery room in the center of the building, which is lighted from the ceiling. At the right of the delivery room are the reading room, of an oval shape and of good proportions, and an exhibition room. The children's room, in the other wing, is furnished with suitable furniture, and has recessed cases for about 1,200 books. A fireplace and mantel of quaint Moravian tiles adds to the attractiveness of this room. The reference and trustees' room is next to the children's room; and beyond that, across a small hallway, where there are stairs leading upward and downward, is the stack room, with a present shelving capacity of about 22,000 volumes, which can be doubled when required. The woodwork throughout is of weathered or brown stained ash in a harmonious tone; and the floors are of quartered oak. The walls are rough finished, and are painted a neutral tone

of green, excepting that of the vestibule, which is a pale terra cotta. The new building and the land on which it stands are valued at about \$50,000. The land was the gift of the Cary heirs; and the building is the gift of Miss Alice B. Cary as a memorial of her mother, Mrs. Maria Hastings Cary, the former benefactor of Lexington and its library. The architect was Willard D. Brown, a native of Lexington. The building is "a picturesque and rambling structure, somewhat suggestive of the mission style, but yet of no distinctive type of architecture, it having been the purpose to make it appropriate to its uses, for which it was planned and built."

LITTLETON. The experiment is being tried of opening on Sunday afternoons for reading purposes. The trustees say: "The privileges of the reading room should enter as deeply as possible into the life of the town, and it is hoped that this more extended use may be a great benefit." The card and slip method of charging has been changed to a modified Browne system. It is endeavored to secure all books required by the schools. Purchases have lately been made of books which serve as supplementary reading for children in the lower grades. A gift of \$1,000 has been received from Nahum Harwood of Leominster, a native of Littleton. Miss Sarah F. White, who had served as librarian from the founding of the library, resigned in March, 1906, and has been succeeded by Mrs. Adelia M. Parker. The trustees say: "The usefulness of this institution has been, to a remarkable degree, due to Miss White's assistance; and for the many results accomplished under her direction the trustees extend, in behalf of the town, their word of appreciation and gratitude."

LONGMEADOW. This library is "constantly increasing in popularity. While fiction is, and always will be, the chief demand of a circulating library, it is gratifying to note a large and increasing call for books of more substantial character." A gift of \$1,000 has been received, "to be used at the discretion of the trustees," from one whose name is withheld. It has been decided to hold it as a fund, the income of which will be devoted to the enlargement of a single department, not yet specified. The trustees very aptly suggest that the town appropriations should steadily increase in proportion with the steadily enlarging influence and usefulness of the library.

LOWELL. The home use of books in 1905 showed a loss of more than 16 per cent. from that of the previous year, which is to be attributed, probably, to the lack of new books. The city appropriation was reduced by \$3,000, the committee suggesting that

the income of the Davis fund be used for the expenses of administration, a recommendation which the trustees strongly opposed. An increased use of the reading room, especially by the artisan class, is noted, indicating that the library is helping in practical lines of advance.

LUNENBURG. The home circulation is increasing. The trustees say: "We have a collection of books of which we may well be proud, but our room is exceedingly inadequate. At our last meeting the town was offered by the Massachusetts Audubon Society books and charts exceedingly instructive and interesting. The offer was refused for lack of room, not only shelf room but wall space for the charts. It seems a pity our children and young people should lose these educational advantages. Cannot our town give something each year toward raising a sum to be laid aside for a library building?"

LYNN. The 300 books comprising the twelve special school collections, mentioned in the report of last year, were used by 7,305 readers. Two additional sets were made up this year. It may be of interest to record the 14 books which have proved to be popular with the school children of Lynn. They are: "Robinson Crusoe," "Tom Brown's School-days," "Hans Brinker," "The Wonder Book," "Marmion," "Docas, the Indian Boy of Santa Clara," "The Arabian Nights," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Little Women," "Five Little Peppers," "Heidi," "The Little Colonel," "The Red True Story Book," and "The Story of King Arthur." In February the trustees voted to assume the payment of the salary of Miss Jennie W. Bubier, who had been in charge of the department for the blind under the committee appointed by the Lynn Historical Society. Upon this action, the committee presented the collection of books for the blind, numbering about 200 volumes, and promised to purchase all books needed for future use in that department. Miss Bubier, who has been blind from infancy, is said to have the distinction of being the only blind librarian in the world. On three afternoons of the week there is a pleasant club of the blind at the library, when there are study and travel talks given by Miss Bubier. A bequest of \$500 has been received from the estate of Dr. Martha J. Flanders, who died in 1898, and another of the same amount has come by the will of Horace N. Hastings. Valuable books, pictures and antiques have been received by gift.

MALDEN. A slight increase in the home circulation of 1906 has been accompanied by a large increase in the circulation from the children's room, amounting to over 10 per cent. in eleven months.

The age limit has been practically abolished by a change in the rules. Two volumes of a work may now be taken upon one card. The lines of old established work have been strengthened and advanced; and it is proposed to increase the library staff in order that other desirable activities may be entered upon. A delivery station, which has not shown good results, has been removed to another locality, with better prospects of success. The Sunday opening of the reading and reference rooms has not received that patronage of the public which was once anticipated. The large circulation of Sunday newspapers and cheap magazines may account in part for its decline; but it is likely that local conditions have been a more effective cause. The electric roads, which offer cheap excursions in many directions, are not conducive to Sunday reading; while the proximity of the city to the beaches, with their Sunday attractions and ease of access, is a factor in the matter with which libraries remote from the seashore do not have to compete. Exhibitions of the collections of the Library Art Club in the trustees' room and loan exhibitions of paintings in the art gallery have been given, as in former years.

MANSFIELD. An auxiliary committee of ladies, who had previously procured pictures and casts for the library, held a very successful entertainment, which gave a sufficient profit to pay for some additional casts and a handsome hall clock, which has been placed in the library.

MARBLEHEAD. The home circulation of 1905 was greater than in the years immediately preceding, and the percentage of fiction slightly increased. A gift of \$100 was received from Richard Mason of Philadelphia, a summer resident, who, on returning his books at the close of the season, thus expressed his appreciation of the treatment he had received. Mrs. Mary Gerry Brown, who had been librarian since the founding of the library in 1877, died April 21, 1905. Mrs. Sarah E. Gregory, who was Mrs. Brown's assistant for twenty-eight years, is her successor. Daniel Appleton, who had been trustee and secretary of the board since 1877, died Oct. 12, 1905.

MARSHFIELD. Ventress Free Library. The trustees say that, "while it has been their practice to consult the preferences of the townspeople to a large extent in the choice of books for the library, yet they have felt an obligation to safeguard the library from becoming a mere bureau for the distribution of the latest fiction; and they are persuaded that the true aim of a library will be better served by an increase, rather than a decrease, in the percentage of the works of permanent value." Reference books may be taken from the library, to be returned the next day.

Clift Rodgers Free Library. This library at Marshfield Hills is free to the inhabitants, but receives no assistance from the town. Clift Rodgers gave \$4,000 for the building, which was completed and opened to the public in 1899. An additional sum of \$1,000 was given by Mr. Rodgers as an endowment. The citizens help towards the maintenance of the library.

MATTAPOISETT. A bronze tablet has been placed in the vestibule of the building expressive of the gratitude of the town to George Purrington, Jr., for the gift of the building, and to Samuel D. Warren, for the gift of the land on which it stands. The circulation of 1905 exceeded that of any previous year. A "rural delivery" has been established for the benefit of the inhabitants of the northern section of the town, for which special cards, with special rules, are used.

MAYNARD. The library has received a bequest of \$182.37 from the estate of the late Mrs. Mary Greene. A stereoscope and views have been purchased, which are available for use during library hours. The circulation keeps pace with the times. Instead of making an annual purchase, books are now bought at frequent intervals, a few at a time, which is advantageous both to the library and the public.

MEDFIELD. The reading room is now open every evening in the week, except on Sundays. A traveling library of the Woman's Education Association, treating of Greece, with photographs, has been loaned.

MEDFORD. The circulation of 1905 showed a loss of about 6 per cent. attributed in part to the extending of the former seven days' limit to two weeks. The necessity "for devoting so large a proportion of money and space to the fiction department" is regretted. Work with the schools has suffered for want of a sufficient stock of books. Books in this service, being in constant use, wear out rapidly, and it needs a large appropriation to keep the department in a good working condition. "In most cities and towns where the connection with the library and schools is close, the books sent to the schools have mainly some connection with their special studies; we claim, however, that our field is a broader one, and that by sending books chosen purely for their literary merit in all departments of literature, the young people are receiving a more extended outlook, and are acquiring a taste for only the best; this we feel is well exemplified by the small per cent. (42) of fiction which the young people's own selection includes." Books are now sent to the city farm, where they remain as long as desired. Stereoscopic photographs have been introduced and are loaned as books are loaned. James A. Hervey, who had been a trustee for more than thirty-five years, died in September, 1905.

MELROSE. The home circulation of 1905 was larger than that of any previous year. The juvenile books have been separated from the main collection and removed to the children's room; and the age limit of borrowers has been reduced from twelve to ten years. [A loan library has been established in the high school for the use of students, that they may have more free and convenient access to the books used in connection with the studies of the school. Exhibits of the collections of the Library Art Club have been continued, and three exhibitions of paintings were given in 1905.] A donation of \$25 for the purchase of children's books, from Miss Mary L. Charles, is reported.

MIDDLEBOROUGH. The home circulation of 1905 exceeded that of 1904 by over 11 per cent. The children's room, which seemed at first to be an experiment, has grown to be a great success. Nearly 38 per cent. of the books delivered were taken from that room. At times, it is hardly large enough to accommodate all comers. The school superintendent says, in his annual report: "The schools of Middleborough are fortunate in having such a valuable adjunct as the public library. The efforts of the librarian and her assistants in stimulating the work of reading among the pupils of our schools are highly commendable. That the library is a source of help to our teachers is evident from reports submitted to the superintendent. . . . The teachers also direct to a great extent the reading of their pupils by requiring certain books to be read. In some schools lists of library books are kept on the blackboards."

MILFORD. The continued interest of the people was shown by the circulation of 1905, which was the largest in the preceding twenty-five years, and has been exceeded but twice in the history of the library. A separate room has been finished and shelved for public documents, which are now properly arranged and can be used for reference work.

MILTON. The circulation of 1905 was 57,349 volumes for a population of about 7,000 persons, exceeding that of the previous year by about 25 per cent. The circulation of the present year will probably exceed that of 1905. The abolition of the age limit and the unrestricted number of books allowed at one time, which may in part account for the increased circulation, are appreciated by borrowers, and the privileges are not abused. The librarian says: "Contrary to the experience of some other libraries, even though our public has free access to all parts of the library, our shelf reading for the year showed only 7 books missing, 4 of which were from

the children's room." Collections of books on special subjects are set aside and reserved for the use of study classes and the public schools.

MONTAGUE. Carnegie Public Library of Turners Falls. Andrew Carnegie gave the town of Montague \$12,500, to which he afterwards added \$1,000, for a public library building at Turners Falls, and the town appropriated \$7,000 for land and furnishing. The building was completed and opened to the public early in the present year. It is of granite and Roman brick of a light gray color, with terra-cotta trimmings. A large general reading room and a children's room of the same size occupy the front of the building. In the rear is a stack room, with a commodious reference room and a librarian's room on either side. On the second floor is a hall designed for a museum and natural history room, but now used as a lecture room, with a seating capacity of about 225 persons. The books of the old Turners Falls branch have been transferred to this library, which now contains about 6,000 volumes and has a shelving capacity of about 25,000 volumes. Miss Anna M. Batson is the librarian. The trustees feel that they have "the requisites for successfully carrying on their work, namely, the card catalogue, free access to the books, an ideal librarian, a responsive public and a modern building."

Montague Public Library. Free access is allowed to the shelves, and liberal privileges are given to the schools and literary clubs.

MONTEREY. This library has received liberal gifts of useful books, especially of those for reference. Among others, the Public Library of Brookline has been a free giver, recently adding a barrel of books to its former donations.

MONTGOMERY. The librarian says: "The past year has emphasized the usefulness of the library. It is a factor in the town which the citizens could ill afford to be without. . . . We have one patron, a boy of about eleven years of age, who has read nearly every historical work the library offers, and, what is more to the point, can give an intelligent digest of any of them." The demand for historical books is large, and the tendency towards solid reading is fostered in the schools. Both teachers and scholars are seeking help in their work from the library. More room is becoming imperative.

MOUNT WASHINGTON. There is at present no permanent librarian. Deposits of books are kept at the north and south schools.

NANTUCKET. Miss Sarah F. Barnard resigned her position as librarian in July, and died Aug. 27, 1906. She would have completed fifty

years of service in November. Miss Clara Parker has been appointed librarian. The old ledger system of charging has been abandoned and the Browne system adopted.

NEEDHAM. The increasing use of the reference books of the library, especially by the young people in connection with school work, is noted. The college students have found the library a good place for special reading. The exhibits of the Library Art Club are divided between the reading rooms at Needham and Highlandville.

NEW BEDFORD. With the circulation steadily increasing, and resort to the library for information increasing still more, the necessity for more room becomes more imperative. The use of fiction has decreased from 79 per cent., in 1900, to 67.7 per cent., in 1905, indicating a wider range of reading. This library has probably the largest collection of books on textiles of any library in the country, while many items of books and prints on the whaling industry are unique. Nearly 200 whaling logs are included in the latter collection. These collections are being constantly increased, and diligent search is made in every quarter where new material is likely to be found. The library is strong in Quakerana, genealogy and art books; and it has files, more or less complete, of 34 newspapers, published in New Bedford since 1792. A continuous exhibit of photographs and half-tones is displayed in the reference room, changes being made weekly. Special privileges are allowed for vacation reading.

NEWBURYPORT. Newburyport Public Library. A gradual increase in circulation is reported. The great need of the library is more room for all departments; and the necessity is becoming more imperative as the years advance.

South End Reading Room. This library closed its first year in its new building in August, 1906, having circulated 11,640 volumes, realizing the most sanguine anticipations of its promoters. An attractive children's room has been furnished and its tables supplied with the best children's magazines by individual givers; and a reading room for older boys and girls has been supplied with periodicals in the same way. The city has made no appropriation this year in aid of this library; and its maintenance has rested upon individuals, who have given liberally, and upon the proceeds of a fair and a rummage sale. The Newburyport Public Library sends books in quantities to be kept for an indefinite time, of which the secretary of the association says: "They are a great help. They give us more variety, and we are enabled to depend on them very largely as far as accommodating the adult readers is con-

cerned. The children's books we prefer to own, because so many of the readers are boys and girls."

NEWTON. There was a slight loss in the home circulation of 1905. The circulation of pictures has increased. Borrowers are allowed to take them in portfolios and retain them for seven days, and sometimes longer if desired. Schools, clubs and students are availing themselves of this use of the pictures. The plan of sending a large number of books to the branch libraries has proved very satisfactory, and the number has been increased from time to time. The children's room is proving very popular.

NORTH ADAMS. The home circulation of 1905 exceeded that of the previous year. The story hours given for the past few years, during the summer months, in the children's room, have steadily increased in interest, the room being crowded most of the time. They are illustrated by nature specimens and stereoscopic views. Because of the crowded condition of the children's room, and because many young girls preferred the adult department, a bookcase labelled "Books young girls like" has been placed near the fiction stacks, thus establishing, in a degree, an intermediate department. Books and pictures have been received from the Richardson estate. How varied may be the demands upon a public library is illustrated by the following questions which were asked at this library in one week: How to impersonate Dickens's characters; how to represent country dances; where an old-fashioned nightcap could be obtained; and where fruit baskets could be bought.

NORTHAMPTON. An arrangement has been made by which, upon an annual payment of \$2,000 by the trustees of Smith College and an annual contribution of \$500 by a donor whose name is withheld, the students of the college are given the privileges of the library until July, 1908, thus restoring the relations which formerly existed between the institutions. The circulation of 1905 showed a slight gain, due to an unusual activity in the circulation of pictures from the art department. As there was but a slight use of the library by the college faculty and students during a portion of the year, under conditions then existing, the gain shows an increased use by the citizens. Notable additions have been made to the collections of pictures, and a beginning has been made towards a representative collection of the originals of Japanese painters. Stereoscopic views have been bought for circulation, with stereoscopes, which have had an extensive use. The technological collection is being enlarged and improved; the result has been to enlist the interest of the male borrowers to a greater

extent than ever before. "The existing shelving has reached its ultimate capacity. There can be no extensive purchases until the question of shelving is settled." The musical collection of the disbanded Northampton Vocal Club, numbering 4,364 pieces, has been deposited in the library. A portrait of the former librarian, Charles A. Cutter, by W. H. W. Bicknell, has been placed in the building. A summer school was held for five weeks, beginning July 16, 1906. Seventeen pupils were in attendance, coming from as far south as South Carolina and as far west as Indiana. The instruction was given by the librarian and the chief cataloguer. Excursions were made to public and college libraries in the vicinity.

Northampton Public Library. There was a slight increase in the circulation of 1905. "Free access to the shelves has been continued, subject to certain regulations. It is fully appreciated by the patrons of the library, and serves as a means of circulating books not in general use heretofore." Miss Mary A. Fuller, the librarian of the Florence branch (the Lilly Free Library), after an efficient service of twenty-seven years, resigned in 1905, and has been succeeded by Miss Matilda P. Schwartz, a resident of Florence.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH. There was a gain in the home circulation of 1905. "The library has steadily continued its good work, and in spite of the work in the shops being so good, has gained rather than lost in circulation. A winter when work is dull always sees an increase in reading, and with our shops so generally running evenings, it would not have been strange if the circulation of library books had fallen off." The inter-library loan system has been of great service; and books have many times been borrowed from Boston and Providence. The Richards heirs, the donors of the library building, have enlarged the reference room to twice its original size, have fitted the reading room tables with individual lamps, and have added two stacks to the shelving capacity. The librarian and teachers make reading lists for the school children from the sixth grade to the high school. Each child is required to read 10 books, which may be selected from a list of about 40. Branches are maintained at New Boston and Adamsdale.

NORWELL. A legacy of \$1,000 has been received from Mrs. Benjamin F. Delano of Brooklyn, N. Y., to be used for the care of the library and not for the purchase of books. The circulation is increasing.

OAKHAM. The circulation of 1905 was the largest of any year in the history of the library. The will of Mrs. Martha M. Macullar, widow of the late Addison Macullar of Boston and Worcester,

contains a bequest of \$500, to be known as the Reed Memorial Fund, the income of which is to be used in the purchase of books for this library. An offer of \$6,000 for the building of a public library by Mrs. Celia E. Fobes and her daughter, Mrs. Harriet F. Gifford, of Tarrytown, N. Y., was accepted by the town at a meeting in November.

OXFORD. The installment of electric lights has added to the convenience and use of the library by allowing it to be opened in the evening. The library hall has been opened to such public meetings as came within the scope of its general purpose. A free lecture course on literary topics was of interest and was well attended. The collection of matter of antiquarian and local historical interest is steadily increasing. A crayon portrait of William Pease, who was organist at the coronation of George IV., in 1821, and is buried in Oxford, is a recent addition of historical value. A "Souvenir of the Charles Larned Memorial and the Free Public Library" has been issued, which contains much interesting historical and descriptive matter relating to the library, illustrated by many views and portraits.

PALMER. This library co-operates with the teachers of the public schools in all ways, and the teachers respond willingly. Books are sent to the school buildings; and a catalogue of books suitable for the school grades has been prepared and will be printed. The service of the Bodley Club has been used for a supply of fiction in the general circulation and has been found to be satisfactory.

PEABODY. Commencing with the beginning of the present school year, groups of pupils from the eighth and ninth grades of the grammar schools, numbering 6 to 8, are sent to the library, and are given a little talk explaining the use of the card catalogue and of reference books, especially of Poole's "Index" and the "Cumulative Index to Periodicals." With such small groups the librarian is able to give individual attention to each pupil. Before they are dismissed, each pupil is required to look up a few references to some topic upon which he is working in the school room. About one hour is given to each group.

PETERSHAM. Books are used by teachers and scholars for reference and study, without limit as to time and the number of volumes taken.

PHILLIPSTON. A card catalogue is being made. Pupils of the public schools have access to the library at all times, and use the books freely in their work.

PITTSFIELD. The department of fiction was closed about five weeks in the spring of the present year and the rate of circulation declined.

The librarian says: "I have no means of determining whether the 5,000 books of travel, history, biography and science read in April and May were of more real service to the city than the 10,000 books of fiction which were not read. . . . Novels are sometimes more useful when they are not read." The use of the reference room has increased. The use of stereoscopic views has proved so popular that the service has been extended. In extension of the important work done by indexing the "Pittsfield Sun," mentioned in the report of last year, similar indexes have been made of 9 newspapers of western Massachusetts, dating from 1790 to 1858. In a thorough renovation of the fiction department, made by personal inspection of the librarian, about 1,000 volumes were removed from the library. In accompanying experiments in binding, "the covers of a few books were treated with a coating of varnish, upon the advice of another library, but the result is not satisfactory." A duplicate library was begun early in the year, of which the librarian says: "This duplicate library has now been increased to more than 100 volumes, and has met with immediate and increasing favor; and the income from this source, besides maintaining the system itself, enables us to add one new volume to our free circulating department about once in three days." The rental is 1 cent a day.

PLYMOUTH. The cost of a printed catalogue of fiction has been paid by Miss Rose S. Whiting, one of the directors. The use of the collection of mounted photographs has increased, and they have proved to be of great advantage for art study, class work, and in the preparation and illustration of various papers and lectures. Miss Mary Pratt has given \$20 for the purchase of reference books; and a bequest of \$500 in the will of Miss Laura Russell is reported.

PROVINCETOWN. The most important part of the work of the library is in connection with the schools. Teachers take such books as they require, without limitation as to quantity and period of retention. Pupils do their reference work at the library, with the help of the librarian.

QUINCY. The home circulation of 1905 showed a gain, with a slight decrease in the use of fiction. The trustees say: "It is to be regretted that the higher orders of fiction show no greater increase, and that the bulk of reading in that direction appears to be devoted to the most ephemeral kind. . . . The call for really sound reading is insignificantly small. As to the circulation of books in the schools, by far the larger proportion of books taken for children by teachers has been juvenile fiction, showing a very large increase over the year before, almost double. This is no doubt owing to the

fact that the library has been largely patronized by teachers of the lower grades. Of course, the general circulation is very largely youthful fiction, some of it extremely youthful. The library authorities endeavor to guide their selection as best they can; they are guarded in their purchases. Now and then a foolish book will slip in, but it is thrown out as soon as they are made aware of the facts." Of the policy of the library the trustees say: "The policy of the institution from the beginning has been against the supplying of special and valuable books. The trustees desire the establishment of a general library, not one for the use of occasional scholars. They are confirmed in this policy by the result of experience. It is better to put the funds of the library into books that are called for and widely read, than into those that remain unread on the shelves save by the very few who can, if they desire such technical works, obtain them in the libraries of the near city."

RANDOLPH. The home circulation has slightly decreased; but "the improvement in other departments has been phenomenal." The public schools have "loaded" the library with reference work; and "the room has had its throng of boys and girls, both afternoon and evening, earnestly seeking information on subjects assigned them at school. . . . The several literary societies of the town have patronized the library well, and every possible aid has been cheerfully extended to them." There is an increasing interest in the exhibits of the collections of the Library Art Club, which have been continued.

READING. "The demand upon the library constantly increases, and may be expected to do so as the population increases, and especially as the connection between the library and the schools becomes more complete. The educational side of the library, as distinguished from its merely popular side, is continually becoming more important, and might be much further expanded with profitable results if the means at command permitted." Volumes required for the use of teachers have been added from time to time.

ROCKPORT. The new building of the Rockport Public Library was opened to the public in February of the present year; and a new catalogue has been printed. The library at Pigeon Cove continues to be maintained as a branch, the town having voted the proceeds of the dog tax for that purpose.

ROWLEY. The room in the new town hall building was occupied in July, 1905. A portion of the room is set apart as a reading room, but there is no special space for the children. Teachers' cards are furnished and extra books are allowed for special study. The age limit has been reduced from sixteen years to twelve years.

ROYALSTON. The library maintains a free delivery at South Royalston. Some of the teachers take books for reference in the public schools. "There is urgent need of a library building and a reading room, which shall be devoted exclusively to library purposes."

SALEM. A somewhat smaller use of the library in 1905 is reported. The lack of room for the increasing collection of books and for the use of modern methods of administration is apparent here as in many of the older libraries. A plan of an enlargement of the present building, doubling its present capacity of shelving, and allowing for the convenience of a largely increased number of readers, is outlined in the report of the librarian. The extension of library work by the establishment of delivery and deposit stations is suggested. The open shelves, containing less than 800 volumes, are said to have furnished more than one-half of the circulation of 1905. The percentage of fiction was 78.73. A gift of 224 volumes on shorthand has been received from William H. Gove of Salem. The library now has a collection of nearly 500 volumes on that subject.

SANDISFIELD. The removal of several families in 1905 reduced the circulation; but of late more books are being sent out, and an increase in borrowers is looked for. The library has about 1,100 volumes, not including magazines, books of reference, reports, etc. The room which is occupied is in a desirable location and gives plenty of space. Books are sent to South Sandisfield.

SANDWICH. There was an increase of over 20 per cent. in the circulation of 1905. An addition of 125 books was the result of an entertainment given by two ladies.

SAUGUS. The circulation of 1905 showed a gain of nearly 14 per cent., partly due to the opening of the library one more afternoon in each week. The use of books in the schools has increased, and it is the policy of the library to secure books suitable for that use.

SHARON. With an increase in circulation, the library is handicapped by crowded shelves and meagre floor space. "Since free access to shelves has been in vogue, a serious difficulty has presented itself, which can only be corrected by the public. On account of carelessness of borrowers, books are not returned to their places in author's groups, after being examined, but are left in confusion and disorder, many thereby failing to get a desired choice that may be *in* but not *in place*."

SHELBURNE. Arms Public Library. Especial attention is being given to the collection of genealogies and books on local history. Lists of accessions are published in the local newspapers.

SHERBORN. At the annual town meeting in March, the sum of \$150 was voted to the library trustees, said sum to be used in the equip-

ment of a reading and reference room. These improvements are under way, and will mean the introduction of the open-shelf system into the library, as well as a small but much needed reading room. Special vacation reading was introduced this year, and many of the school children followed the requirements and received due credit for books read.

SOMERVILLE. The circulation of 1905 showed a gain of about 11 per cent. In the amount of circulation this library is only exceeded in the New England States by that of Boston, and it is supposed to rank as the twentieth in the United States. The circulation through the 6 delivery stations has largely increased. Four of the stations are at stores. Of these the librarian writes: "Several hundred books are kept in each; but perhaps these stations are not large enough to be dignified by the name of branch libraries." Four hundred and ninety books are counted as missing in 1905, of which 172 were from the fiction shelves and 173 from the children's room. The circulation of the children's room was 70,184, with a percentage of 78 in fiction.

SOUTHAMPTON. An addition of one evening in the week has been made to the open hours and there has been a gain in the circulation. A traveling library and several collections of pictures have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association.

SOUTHBRIDGE. The statistics of 1905 show that there has been the usual growth in all departments, with an increase in the home circulation. The librarian says: "The books for boys and girls show the greatest increase in circulation. The number of children who use the library is constantly growing, an excellent condition of affairs with regard to the coming generation but one which presents difficulties for the present generation so long as a children's room is lacking. Especially is this the case when the reading room is shut off from supervision as ours is. A children's room seems to me to be the crying need of this library." More than the usual interest has been taken in the exhibitions of the Library Art Club. Pictures have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association.

SOUTH HADLEY. An offer by Andrew Carnegie of \$10,000 for a library building has been accepted by the town. Miss Elizabeth Gaylord of South Hadley has given a valuable site at the corner of Bardwell and Gaylord streets, in the village of South Hadley Falls; and work has begun on the building, which is to be completed by June 1, 1907.

SPENCER. Repairs are about being made in the library building. The old wooden stacks are to be removed and steel and glass stacks put in, furnishing more room for books, which has become a neces-

sity. The income of this library is derived from the rentals of a brick block and a tenement house, which were given to the town by Richard Sugden, the donor of the library building.

SPRINGFIELD. An interesting and suggestive section of the last annual report of the librarian is that entitled "Publicity and Use," in which the various methods by which a progressive library makes itself known to the public are given in detail. Collections of books and plates on special subjects; collections of books suitable for gifts at Christmas time; portraits of noted authors, with their works grouped below them; collections of summer resort literature, with time tables, illustrated pamphlets, maps, etc.; and almost continuous exhibitions of original drawings, engravings, photographs, etc., are among the means by which public interest is attracted and cultivated. "The mail sometimes offers a convenient way of reaching readers. Thus, post cards headed 'You may be interested in the following book, recently added to the library,' have been sent from time to time to persons to whom the book was thought likely to appeal; and reminders were mailed to 1,300 readers, whose cards had stood unused at the library for a long time, with the result that the majority have been resumed." An admirable monthly bulletin is issued and widely distributed; and special book lists are prepared and furnished, with the aim to make them reach the readers who are most likely to use them. The newspapers have published items of library news on an average as often as once a week. To reach citizens who are ignorant of the location of the library, or unaware of its existence, "a large mailing card has been printed, headed with an invitation to use the library, followed by a list of 50 books chosen for their variety and attractiveness, and these cards are being mailed systematically — 50 each week — to all persons in the directory not already card-holders, who, it is thought, may use the library if it is brought directly to their attention. The results of this experiment are awaited with interest." The publication of current accessions with notes weekly in three daily papers has been a most effective agent in promoting the use of the better class of books. The result of a system of persistent advertising is notable. The librarian says: "To sum up, in three years, while the population of the city has increased 11 per cent. and the circulation of fiction has increased 22 per cent., the circulation of non-fiction for adults has increased 41 per cent." In the process of recataloguing and classification, the books "have been carefully examined, and the useless ones — over 4,000 this year — have been weeded out." An important feature has been the "classification and cataloguing of

all material relating to Springfield. This includes not only books and pamphlets about Springfield, but also works by Springfield authors and books printed in the city. The library's collection of this material is sadly inadequate. It is found to lack, for example, old reports and pamphlets issued by the city government, which, since the burning of the city hall, no longer exist. One of the foremost duties of a public library is to preserve the history of its own city, and the library earnestly appeals to its friends to send it not only old pamphlets and documents of local interest, but current publications, such as reports of charitable, educational and other organizations, publications by the churches, pamphlets giving the history of local commercial enterprises, in fact, anything that may be preserved to show the life of the community." The branch at Faith Church has been discontinued, and the service at the Forest Park branch, which is more favorably located, has been increased. The legacy of \$10,000 from the late Charles M. Kirkham has been received and its income will be applied for the purposes mentioned in a former report. The will of the late Edward M. Walker provides that the association shall ultimately share one-third of the income of his estate, which will be applied to the development of the science museum. The total value of the estate is supposed to be over \$400,000.

STOCKBRIDGE. Branch libraries have been opened at Glendale and Interlaken, which are cared for by volunteer librarians. "The special Stockbridge collection is now placed in a separate bookcase, readily accessible to inspection, and contains over 100 volumes. This collection will be increased through books promised by residents, and it is proving a gratifying exhibit of the literary productivity of the town." The books of the library have been rearranged by the decimal classification. An interesting historical and descriptive sketch of the library, prepared by the president, Richard R. Bowker, has been printed and a copy sent to each family in the town, as far as practicable. Of the library and its policy he says: "A collection of from 8,000 to 10,000 volumes presents, perhaps, the ideal library for town purposes, and Stockbridge has had the advantages of an excellent selection, so that the library is remarkable for the quality of the books on its shelves. Increase beyond this number imposes additional burdens and seems undesirable, and it is therefore the preferable policy to 'weed out' the library at intervals of three to five years, and so make room for the newer books, not only in fiction but in the several departments of knowledge. Such a library should interlock closely with the work of the schools, and it is the present

policy of the library to develop in such direction as to make its collection specially useful to the students in the Williams Academy and pupils in the higher classes of the schools."

STONEHAM. A bequest of \$2,000 in the will of the late Miss Georgiana M. Dike was accepted by the town at a meeting in October. This is to be held as a permanent fund, to be known as the George Levi Woodbury Dike Fund, the income of which is to be used in the purchase of books for the public library.

STOUGHTON. The circulation of 1905 exceeded that of the previous year. An important addition has been made to the library by L. W. Standish, who has presented his files of the "Sentinel," a local newspaper, from which thirty complete years have been bound. An appeal is made for missing numbers to complete the remainder of the set.

STOW. Henry Gates of the board of trustees has placed in the library a cabinet of interesting and valuable antique articles of china, brass and pewter, as a memorial of his mother, the late Mrs. Mercy Houghton Gates. The action of the librarian in endeavoring to gather local historical material should be imitated by every city and town librarian in the state. She says: "I hope an attempt will be made to induce older families of the town to deposit notable gifts in the form of manuscripts. This is of growing importance, as it will bring together the papers of many old families of the town. Such material of the old families, some of which have been prominent in public life for more than a century, is unusual. As a family history, their contents would be valuable, as these old documents cover a very important period. In after years a letter even may remain as a memorial to the man and to the spirit of the times. The library desires to possess examples of the writings and manuscripts of our early settlers. Such material will be gratefully received and carefully guarded."

SWAMPSCOTT. The late Mrs. Joanna Morse of Cambridge bequeathed to this library the rest and residue of her estate, after paying certain annuities and gifts, as a fund, the income of which is to be used in the purchase of books. It is said that this fund will amount to about \$5,500, a portion of which has already been received. A suggestion made by the trustees may well be considered by other cities and towns. They say: "We trust that the citizens will not, in making their appropriations, consider that the library has other income, but will continue to make the usual appropriations, and allow the library the full benefit of all bequests."

SWANSEA. A weekly delivery has been established at South Swansea, four deliveries being now maintained. There was a slight increase

in the circulation of 1905, and a gain in the percentage of books other than fiction. The income of the Brayton fund is to be applied to the purchase of reference books in history. A gift of \$25 was received from Miss Mary A. Case for assistance in library work.

TAUNTON. The first year in the new building was characterized by an increase of 10 per cent. in the home circulation. A course of free lectures was given in the early part of the year, which was marked by a gratifying degree of patronage and appreciation by many of the citizens.

TOWNSBURY. There was an increase of about 14 per cent. in the circulation of 1905.

TOWNSEND. A bequest of \$100 received by the will of Walter J. Ball has been expended for books of permanent value. Loans of pictures have been received from the Woman's Education Association, and a traveling library from the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Teachers and pupils are given special privileges; and their liberal use of the library justifies the measure and shows their appreciation of the same.

TRURO. The use of the library by the summer people in 1905 was greater than ever before. "Summer people are on the increase, and we hope to keep the library attractive for both the visitor and the townspeople. From the stranger often come donations of books for which we are thankful." Shebnah Rich of Salem has made an important addition to his former gifts of books. The library is open to the schools, and the children may consult the books at any time, regardless of library hours.

TYRINGHAM. Moving and becoming settled in the new building was the feature of the latter half of 1905. The collection, numbering about 2,000 volumes, has been classified by the Dewey system. Individual cash gifts, amounting to about \$750, were received, of which the largest were \$225 from Mrs. Charlotte Tytus, and \$100 each from Mrs. Laura Fuller and George K. Baird. Gifts of books have included about 250 bound volumes and a quantity of magazines and pamphlets from the library of the late Daniel Clark, the local mineralogist and collector, who possessed a national reputation. Two collections of pictures and a traveling library have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association and have proved very popular. Summer boarders are charged 25 cents per month for borrowing privileges.

WAKEFIELD. A supplementary catalogue has been printed. The circulation through the Greenwood branch has increased, and the trustees recommend that books be added to the present deposit there, and a reading room, in some central location, be established.

WALPOLE. The circulation of 1905 exceeded that of the previous year, and the daily average of the present year shows notable gains. The teachers in the lower grades of the public schools take such books as they may select to the schoolrooms for a month, and encourage the pupils to read them, either at home or in school. Thus the children become familiar with a better class of books than they would probably choose if left to themselves. The work with the high school continues as before reported, except that the requirement is to read one or in some cases two books each week. The demand for better service at East Walpole has resulted in the establishment of a branch in place of the former delivery station, a room in a club house having been offered for that purpose. Several hundred volumes have been installed, and the room is open on two afternoons each week.

WAREHAM. Each person is allowed three cards, one for general reading, one for magazines and one for books required for reference or study. Books taken on the latter card may be retained beyond the time limit, if not otherwise needed. It is endeavored to make the library of real use to the schools. A fair proportion of the books purchased during the year was from a list prepared by the superintendent of schools for the use of teachers and pupils. Reviews of new books upon the shelves, largely those relating to nature study, were prepared by a committee and appeared in the weekly local paper. This "library column" created considerable interest.

WARREN. The will of Mary G. Hitchcock of Warren is reported to contain a bequest of \$1,000 for the use of the library, payable after the death of stated parties.

WARWICK. The circulation of 1905 exceeded that of 1904, and was at the rate of eight volumes per capita. The teachers in the center of the town took books for school use; and collections were sent to the school in Brush valley in the spring and winter terms. Pictures have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association, "which have been much enjoyed and appreciated." The need of a larger room becomes more urgent every year.

WATERTOWN. There was a loss in the home circulation of 1905, but a gain in the use of books for reference. The reduction of the hours of Sunday opening, as noticed in the report of last year, appears to meet all the requirements of the community, the attendance having been well maintained. The library has now almost complete files of the Watertown local newspapers, and a set of the printed town reports, which is more nearly complete than any other collection. The exceedingly limited degree of interest which the public has shown in a printed catalogue of biography, history

and travel is noticed. A portrait of Hollis H. Hunnewell by Ernest L. Ipsen has been placed in the library. Much has been done in the past for co-operation with the public schools; but at present the pupils come directly to the library, or get their books through the delivery stations. The teachers feel that they are overworked, and prefer that method.

WAYLAND. There has been a steady increase in the circulation. A comparison of the circulation of five years shows an increase of about 60 per cent.

WEBSTER. A gift of \$100 from Mrs. H. N. Slater has been used in the purchase of books. A decrease in adult reading in 1905 was accompanied by a large increase in the juvenile circulation. A good part of the former is attributed to the loss of several families who patronized the library largely. An interesting feature in 1905 was an exhibition of Irish books, photographs and curios, followed in 1906 by an exhibition of French-Canadian pictures and other articles, the latter mostly home made — woven and spun. Considerable interest was shown in these exhibitions, and they attracted visitors who had never before entered the library. Books on Canadian history and travel and Canadian fiction were in demand after the latter exhibition.

WELLESLEY. A delivery station has been established at Cedar Street, making the third now in operation. The recataloguing has been completed, and a printed bulletin, covering accessions in 1904 and 1905, has been issued. Two books, but one of fiction, may be drawn at one time on one card, and vacation privileges are allowed.

WENDELL. The library room in the town hall is small, and by the increase of the library it has become very much crowded. The trustees recommend the building of a new town house and the remodeling of the old building for library use. Books and pictures have been loaned by the Woman's Education Association. Reference books are loaned for use in the schools. A dinner was given for the benefit of the library in the purchase of books.

WENHAM. This library, which has long been hampered in its work for want of space, will probably have a room in the town hall, which will soon be vacated by the grammar school. This room will give fully three times the space of the present room and will be ample for several years.

WESTBOROUGH. Melvin H. Walker, a member of the board of trustees, has added the sum of \$2,500 to the library building fund, which is reported to amount to about \$26,500. Plans have been made for a building, which will be completed in the spring of 1907. It is

to be a two-story building, on land purchased by the town for library purposes several years ago, at the corner of Main and Parkman streets. "The frontage of the main building is 60 feet, depth 30 feet. The delivery room is on the first floor, on the Parkman Street side of which is a large reading room; on the other side are the children's room and the reference room. The rear of the delivery room opens into a 30-foot square stack room, which, with its basement for the storage of public documents and other printed matter seldom called for, has a capacity for 40,000 to 50,000 volumes. The exterior shows a handsome building constructed of Milford granite and gray brick, with limestone trimmings, copper cornice and slated roof. The specifications call for quartered oak finish in the first story and ash in the second." A bequest of \$2,000 is contained in the will of Ellen B. Winch of Westborough.

WEST BOYLSTON. Books of reference are furnished to the schools; and the librarian assists the teachers in the selection of suitable books for the several grades. The library has a very complete collection of books relating to the history of its own and the neighboring towns; and, in connection with it, photographs of all the buildings in the town which were destroyed by the construction of the Wachusett reservoir and a map of the town drawn on a scale of 300 feet to the inch have been procured. About 200 books, which were the gift of David Lee and Lydia Maria Child, have been withdrawn from general circulation and placed in special cases. These books were the nucleus of the present library and among them are many autograph copies.

WEST BRIDGEWATER. A bequest of \$500, for the purchase of books, has been received by the will of Mrs. Mary N. H. Edgerly.

WESTFIELD. The circulation of 1905 was very much larger than that of any previous year in the history of the library. The library committee endeavors to exclude from its purchases all harmful works of fiction. The interest of the children in their department has steadily increased. The librarian writes: "The children's room is crowded to suffocation during the evenings in the winter; and it is recognized that the best work cannot be done until the room is enlarged."

WESTMINSTER. There is considerable increase in the use of the library for school work, and it is gratifying to note that many of the young people are acquiring the library habit. A bibliography of local history has been prepared, and a good beginning has been made in collecting old documents and manuscripts relating to the town. Over 200 volumes have been presented by Miss Helen O. Bigelow of Boston, in memory of her father, A. O. Bigelow. The circula-

tion has increased. Delivery stations have been opened in the schoolhouses at the Narrows and South Westminster, which are administered by the teachers and are used by the inhabitants of the districts as well as by the pupils.

WESTON. A donation of \$100 was received from Francis Blake, being his salary as a member of the board of selectmen, to be expended for books of reference or other works of special value. A manuscript volume of "Weston Epitaphs," by the late Frank W. Bigelow, has been acquired by purchase. This volume, which is of much local interest and historical value, "contains exact facsimiles of the epitaphs of most of the headstones of the old burying ground, with pen and ink sketches of the stones themselves, and, in many cases, the coats of arms of the families."

WESTPORT. Westport Free Public Library. "It is hoped by the trustees that some satisfactory arrangements may be made in the near future, whereby the people residing in all parts of the town may receive equal benefits from the library with those living nearer to the town hall."

Westport Public Library. A branch has been established at Horseneck. Three branches are now maintained by this library.

Westport Point Library. This library distributes its duplicate books and old magazines among the fishermen and neighboring farmers, and this year some have been sent to the whale ships at Barbadoes and Fayal. Magazine clippings are arranged and filed for the use of the schools, and Perry pictures are kept for the same purpose.

WEST STOCKBRIDGE. A successful year in a larger circulation and in work with the schools is reported. Most cordial relations exist between the library and the schools and the teachers, through whose efforts the library has received substantial support. A card catalogue is nearly completed; and the library grounds have been improved.

WEYMOUTH. Fogg Library. The most important work of the library is with the schools. Frequent lists of books are put into the hands of the teachers and pupils, and lists of books on special subjects are posted in the library. Students are encouraged to go to the reference room, and are taught how to use its books. As the result of a fair given last spring, the sum of \$1,500 was given to the trustees for the benefit of the library.

WHITMAN. More commodious and convenient rooms, which are much needed, will be provided for the library in the new town hall, now being built.

WILBRAHAM. The bequest of \$1,000 by Henry Cutler of North Wilbraham, mentioned in a former report, has been invested, and the

income is to be used in the purchase of books. In October the library was moved to a location in the center of the village of North Wilbraham, which gives more room and allows opportunities for better care and service.

WILLIAMSBURG. Haydenville Free Library. The two higher classes in the public school use the library very freely, taking about one-third of the books delivered. Charles A. Phillips, the former librarian, having removed from the town, the library is now in charge of Thomas H. Ives, the former assistant librarian.

WILLIAMSTOWN. Williamstown Public Library. The old system of printed or typewritten catalogues being "not only antiquated but also cumbrous and inconvenient," a card catalogue is being prepared. To bring the library into closer touch with the schools, reference and library helps have been purchased. The necessity for a library building is urged by the trustees. The book space is already so crowded that, with one or two more accessions of books, there will be no more shelf room.

WINCHENDON. The librarian says: "It has been and is our aim to work with the public schools all that is possible with the amount of money we have to spend. The teachers give us a list of books they would like, and we purchase them as far as possible. Teachers are allowed to take five books at a time for school use. The pupils are allowed all privileges that we can give them with our limited room."

WINCHESTER. The circulation of 1905 exceeded that of the previous year. The need of more room is becoming more apparent and prevents the undertaking of any important special improvements or methods in library work. Especially is the lack of a children's room of much disadvantage.

WINTHROP. The circulation of 1905 showed a loss of about 8.7 per cent. The Browne system of charging has been adopted, and the librarian reports that the results have been very gratifying. Miss Bessie F. Cordes, who had been librarian since May 1, 1902, resigned Nov. 14, 1906, and has been succeeded by Miss Alice A. Munday of Winthrop.

WOBURN. In connection with a new registration, the two-card system has been adopted. There has been a decided change and improvement in the children's department, and its circulation has increased. In common with many other libraries of the State, the question of additional shelf room is becoming prominent. The Eunice Thompson Memorial Library building in ward six is in process of erection. This library has a separate board of trustees.

WORCESTER. Extensive repairs and improvements have been made in the library building. There was in 1905 a marked increase in

the use of the reference and children's departments, and a decreased use of the circulating department. The latter may be attributed to the general prosperity, the transfer of the school work to the children's department, and the many persons who buy books printed in cheap editions. Room has been made for little children in the children's room. The opening of the children's room on Sundays and holidays, tried as an experiment, has proved successful. The expense is small, and the amount of good done and happiness conferred is large. There has been issued a finding list of music and books relating to music and composers, and a finding list of fiction. Monthly lists of additions are regularly issued, and weekly articles concerning new accessions are printed in the "Sunday Telegram." Exhibitions of photographs and other illustrations of countries, schools of art, etc., have been continued; and talks have been given on the literature of botany, birds and the District of Alaska. There has been an exhibition of books in the several characters used by the blind, with the presence of blind persons to show how the reading is done. The appliances and processes of binding were shown in another exhibition, a practical binder being present and doing different kinds of work. The Newark charging system has been introduced in the children's department, and its introduction into the adult circulating department is contemplated. Vacation lists of books and lists for children of different grades have been printed; and a more intimate acquaintance between the librarian and the teachers has been effected. Stereoscopes and pictures are in use, and photographs have been provided to loan to teachers for use in school work. Examinations are held for the positions of senior and junior assistants. An error in the name of Robert Kendall Shaw, the assistant librarian, was made in the report of last year.

WRENTHAM. The circulation of 1905 was considerably reduced because of the division of the town by the incorporation of Plainville. Additions to the library by purchase have been such as are generally demanded by the reading public; and several bequests of books have been received.

YARMOUTH. Yarmouth Library Association. The late Nathan Matthews of Boston, whose benefactions are noticed in the report of 1899, bequeathed \$5,000 for the use of this library. There has been a marked increase in the use of books of reference; and there has been a growing appreciation of the advantages of the library by temporary and summer residents. The trustees make an appeal for the collection of printed and manuscript local historical matter. The library already possesses a valuable collection in that left by the late Amos Otis.

THE NEW LAW OF 1906.

The last Legislature passed a law which has been embodied in the following circular and sent to the smaller libraries throughout the State:—

BOSTON, MASS., 1907.

To the Trustees and Librarian of the Free Public Library,

GENTLEMEN:—The Legislature of 1906 has passed the following act for the purpose of aiding the free public libraries in the small towns:—

AN ACT TO AID FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE SMALL TOWNS.

Be it enacted in the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

The board of free public library commissioners may annually expend a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars in aid of free public libraries, especially in those towns the valuation of which does not exceed six hundred thousand dollars. Such aid may include the furnishing of books in small quantities, visits to libraries, the instruction of librarians, and such other means of encouraging and stimulating the small libraries as said commissioners shall deem advisable : *provided*, that a full detail of expenditures under this act shall be printed in the annual report of the commissioners.

The purpose of this law, which will govern the commission in its administration, is to aid and improve the libraries in the small towns of the State.

This aid may take any form which the commission may decide. For instance, it may:—

1. Furnish from time to time, in small quantities, new and attractive books, to enrich the library and stimulate its readers.
2. When necessary it may secure occasional personal visits to libraries by helpful library workers.
3. When technical or expensive books are needed for temporary use by a small library, the commission will endeavor to secure the loan of them from some other or from its own collection.
4. It may be able to afford some aid in the direction of education for librarians.

Other avenues of aid may be utilized.

The libraries receiving this letter are requested to correspond freely with the commission, stating with the utmost frankness their needs in whatever direction, with the assurance from the commission that any suggestion or request will be given the most careful consideration.

No hard and fast rules will be adopted. The commission desires

to be helpful in the most practical way to the especial necessities of the individual library.

The librarian is requested to bring this letter to the attention of the trustees.

For the commission,

C. B. TILLINGHAST,

Chairman.

EDUCATION OF LIBRARIANS.

In carrying out the spirit and intent of the new law, the commission has paid the expense of attendance of three librarians upon the summer library school of Simmons College. The favorable results of this instruction will lead the commission to continue the opportunity to a few such librarians in the future as seem to have enthusiasm to continue their public service.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATES.

The commission has commenced the organization of an association of voluntary visitors, selected from different localities in the State, who will visit from time to time designated libraries for the purpose of stimulating their work and procuring and furnishing definite information concerning their condition to the commission.

Miss Katharine P. Loring, a lady who has devoted much time to voluntary educational work, has generously accepted the chief supervision of these associates. Her successful experience in executive organization insures an effective and valuable service.

EXPENSES OF THE YEAR.

The following statement shows the total amount expended by the commission for the year, as required by law:—

Books supplied to towns,	\$676 73
Expenses to summer school of three librarians,	211 86
1,000 library maps, and mailing,	150 00
500 monthly library lists, and mailing,	147 62
Printing,	24 01
Postage, expressage and stationery,	76 99
Traveling expenses,	39 50
Printing annual report,	213 70
	<hr/>
	\$1,540 41

THE LIBRARY MAP.

The commission has sent to nearly 1,000 of the leading libraries and educational institutions of the world copies of the graphic map which was made for the World's Expositions, showing illustrations of library buildings in the State. The map has attracted much attention, and the acknowledgments received have indicated great interest in our system. Requests for additional copies have been received from Norway, Germany, Spain and several other countries, and in numberless cases the map has been placed on public bulletins.

THE WOMAN'S EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

The report of the Woman's Education Association for the year gives the result of the visits of 57 libraries, with 1,541 books, to 54 places, with a circulation of 4,711, or an increase of 714 over last year. On a basis of 1,000, this circulation was divided as follows: fiction, 557; travel, 118; periodicals, 76; art, 49; biography, 42; history, 42; natural history, 37; literature, 26; miscellaneous, 53.

The regular libraries have been to the following towns and villages:—

Acushnet,	Lakeville,	Russell,
Alford,	Leverett,	Rutland,
Annisquam,	Littleville,	Sandisfield,
Chilmark,	Miller's Falls,	Swift River,
Colrain,	Monroe Bridge,	Wales,
Dana,	Monterey,	Washington,
East Freetown,	New Marlborough,	Wendell,
Farley,	North Chester,	West Cummington,
Florida,	Oakham,	West Stockbridge,
Goshen,	Otis,	West Worthington,
Hancock,	Paxton,	Wheelwright,
Heath,	Pelham,	Windsor.
Huntington,	Plainfield,	
Knightville,	Rowe,	

Permission was given to one member of the Association to prepare a library composed largely of books of proved standard value, especially fiction. It consists of 80 books, of which 40 are fiction. For this library the village of Littleville was se-

lected, — a hamlet of some 100 inhabitants, remote from the town library. The founder of this library accompanied it to the village, and gave an evening's talk on the books, which was evidently a great pleasure to the auditors. The circulation of this library was 243, of which 75 per cent. was fiction.

The special libraries now number 13: Florence, Rome, Venice, French, Spanish, Dutch, Italian and Greek art, English architecture, Egypt, Shakespeare, travel in France, and religion. These have visited Annisquam, Ashby, Athol, Bedford, Billerica, Carver, Cheshire, Danvers, Granby, Medfield, North Chelmsford, Northfield, Reading, Rowe, Shelburne Falls, Somerset, Southampton, South Deerfield, Stoneham and Townsend. Venice had a circulation of 159 at Southampton and English architecture 98 at Cheshire. The library of religious reading has not proved a success, having been to 3 towns in two years, with a total circulation of only 48. A library on health has been prepared and will be started on its travels soon. The 4 Audubon libraries have visited Bernardston, Dennis, Douglas, Milton, Russell, Rutland, Shirley and Townsend, with a total circulation of 564.

Twenty-six sets of pictures have made 145 visits to 108 different places. Those now in active circulation are: Valley of the Yosemite, Prang platinettes, eastern and western Switzerland, Hawaii, English water-colors, woman in art, Canadian Pacific Railroad, India, Japan, Grand Cañon of the Colorado, New England birds, queer things across the sea, China, Venetian art, Naples, and a set of decorative designs called "festoons." The set on London, which had been very thoroughly used, was sent to Mrs. Eugene B. Heard of Giddletown, Ga., who has charge of a large number of travelling libraries in the south.

In last year's report it was stated that the publication of a book list by the American Library Association might render the work in that direction unnecessary. To test the question, a postal card was sent out with the April list, asking whether a continuance was desired or if the A. L. A. list was preferred. One hundred and thirty-nine replies desired a continuance; 32 preferred the A. L. A.

A number of gifts have been received and transmitted to needy libraries. Eight volumes of Lord's "Beacon Lights of History," given by Mrs. H. M. Whitney, were sent to Monterey, and were gratefully received.

The annual library trip was made in June by Miss Morison, Miss Lowell and Miss Chandler. A number of villages in the remotest sections of Berkshire County were visited and the libraries looked over, advice and encouragement given the librarians, and in several cases books or pictures sent them.

The good results of the work of the members of this association in its several activities have been felt and recognized from year to year by this commission, and have been of permanent value in the development of the library interests of the State. To their enterprise and enthusiasm is due a proud share in the library activity which is felt in every hamlet in the State.

A. L. A. BOOK LIST.

The commission is sending free the A. L. A. book list to about 500 libraries and branches, from month to month as it is issued. It is a useful guide in the selection of books for small as well as the larger libraries.

THE LIBRARY ART CLUB.

The Library Art Club constantly increases in size and usefulness. It now has 109 members and 100 exhibits, which have been shown 1,333 times during the year. Its membership includes 83 Massachusetts libraries.

A LOAN COLLECTION.

If there should appear to be any great need of a loan collection of books for the benefit of the smaller libraries, the commission may try the experiment. If books are needed for study or reading which it does not seem advisable for a small library to purchase, on account of expense or for other reasons, the commission will, at its discretion, provide the books as a loan. It will consider all applications that may be made, except for works of fiction.

THE VALUE OF THE SMALL LIBRARY.

The ideal distribution of the best literature would be upon the bookshelf or center table of every family circle. The ideal is sometimes impossible, more frequently impracticable. The genesis of the free public library is an approach to this ideal. The nearer the library to the home, the closer the approach to the ideal. A few large libraries are indispensable for the scholar,

but the great value of books as a means for general public education lies in their distribution, not in their concentration. It is the food that reaches and is assimilated at the family table that supports life, not that which is stored in the great warehouse. The libraries that are of the most vital interest to all our people are those that are within sound of the music of every free school bell. These small libraries are constantly growing in number, and their need is daily becoming more emphatic in every hamlet. Let any one who is inclined, for any reason, to underrate their value compare their relative circulation to their constituency with that of the larger libraries to their constituencies. The percentage of the whole people who use the small library in a town is greater than the percentage that use the large library in the city.

That is the general, well-nigh the universal rule. An exception now and then there will always be, but it is rare and usually of short duration. A brief slumber is not death, and it is often the prelude to reinvigorated vitality. Our small libraries are live libraries. They have a goodly store of well-selected books; these books are circulated and read. They need more books. They are not in rich communities, but the State, to some extent, supplements their efforts. Now and then they need a word of encouragement. If any one doubts the condition of our libraries, he is invited to a careful reading of the notes of library progress, which are given as they come from the libraries themselves. Note the fertility of suggestions towards widening the usefulness of the library, — an instance of which is the family-library system on trial in the little town of Dover.

Respectfully submitted,

C. B. TILLINGHAST.
MABEL SIMPKINS AGASSIZ.
SAMUEL SWETT GREEN.
DELORAINÉ P. COREY.
ELIZABETH P. SOHIER.

APPENDIX I.

NAMES

OF

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

AND

NAMES OF LIBRARIANS.

NAMES OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND NAMES OF LIBRARIANS.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Abington, . . .	Abington Public Library, . . .	Helen M. Hunt.
North Abington, . . .	North Abington Branch, . . .	Gertrude M. Gleason.
Acton, . . .	Acton Memorial Library, . . .	Arthur F. Davis.
Acushnet, . . .	Acushnet Free Public Library, . . .	Elsie Collins.
Perry Hill, . . .	Perry Hill Branch, . . .	Mrs. Althea I. Ellis.
Long Plain, . . .	Long Plain Branch, . . .	Mrs. Sophronia W. Veazie.
Adams, . . .	Adams Free Public Library, . . .	Lucy C. Richmond.
Agawam, . . .	Agawam Free Public Library, . . .	Ralph Perry.
Feeding Hills, . . .	Feeding Hills Branch, . . .	S. Newell Smith.
Mittineague, . . .	Mittineague Branch, . . .	Julia E. Tower.
Alford, . . .	Alford Free Town Library, . . .	Mrs. Rachel E. Ploss.
Amesbury, . . .	Amesbury Public Library, . . .	Alice C. Follansbee.
Amherst, . . .	Amherst Town Library, . . .	Mary M. Robinson.
North Amherst, . . .	North Amherst Library, . . .	Emma H. Parsons.
Andover, . . .	Memorial Hall Library, . . .	Edna Adelaide Brown.
Arlington, . . .	Robbins Library, . . .	Elizabeth Jane Newton.
Arlington Heights, . . .	Arlington Heights Branch, . . .	M. Macie Seabury.
Ashburnham, . . .	Ashburnham Public Library, . . .	Lona M. Davis.
Ashby, . . .	Ashby Free Public Library, . . .	Eliza A. Kendall.
Ashfield, . . .	Ashfield Library Association, . . .	Julia A. Williams.
South Ashfield, . . .	South Ashfield Branch, . . .	Mrs. Charles Day.
Baptist Corner, . . .	Baptist Corner Branch, . . .	Mrs. Houghton Smith.
Ashland, . . .	Ashland Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Ellen M. Arnold.
Athol, . . .	Athol Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Mary A. Cook.
Attleborough, . . .	Attleborough Public Library, . . .	Martha Tyrie.
Auburn, . . .	Auburn Free Public Library, . . .	Josie E. Prouty.
Avon, . . .	Avon Free Public Library, . . .	H. Wallace Blanchard.
Ayer, . . .	Ayer Library, . . .	S. Adelaide Blood.
Barnstable, . . .	Sturgis Library, . . .	Elizabeth Crocker Nye.
Centreville, . . .	Centreville Free Public Library As- sociation.	Rose Alma Hallett.
Cotuit, . . .	Cotuit Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Zeno S. Parker.
Hyannis, . . .	Hyannis Free Public Library Asso- ciation.	Elfeda Jenkins Bradford.
Marston's Mills, . . .	Marston's Mills Library, . . .	Mrs. Elliott Baxter.
Osterville, . . .	Osterville Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Mary L. Crocker.
Barre, . . .	Barre Town Library, . . .	Carrie Emily Read.
Becket, . . .	Becket Athenæum, . . .	Mrs. Eliza Millard.
Bedford, . . .	Bedford Free Public Library, . . .	Fannie A. Wood.
Belchertown, . . .	Clapp Memorial Library, . . .	Lydia A. Barton.
Bellingham, . . .	Bellingham Free Public Library, . . .	Bertha Franklin.
Belmont, . . .	Belmont Public Library, . . .	Florence E. Whitchee.
Berkley, . . .	Berkley Public Library, . . .	Julia R. Burt.
Berlin, . . .	Berlin Free Public Library, . . .	Alice E. Babcock.
South Berlin, . . .	South Berlin Branch, . . .	John Walter.
Bernardston, . . .	Cushman Library, . . .	Mrs. Charles R. Hills.
BEVERLY, . . .	Beverly Public Library, . . .	Martha Putnam Smith.
Beverly Farms, . . .	Beverly Farms Branch, . . .	Lillian A. Culbert.
Billerica, . . .	Bennett Public Library, . . .	Fannie S. Paige.
Talbot Mills, . . .	Talbot Library, . . .	Lillie Bottomley.
Blackstone, . . .	Blackstone Free Public Library, . . .	Timothy E. Curran.
Blandford, . . .	Blandford Free Library, . . .	Hattie Parks Herrick.
North Blandford, . . .	North Blandford Branch, . . .	Mrs. Howard C. Waite.
Bolton, . . .	Bolton Public Library, . . .	Fidelia C. Newton.
BOSTON, . . .	Public Library of the City of Boston, . . .	Horace G. Wadlin.
Brighton, . . .	Brighton Branch, . . .	Louise Prouty.
Charlestown, . . .	Charlestown Branch, . . .	Elizabeth F. Cartée.
Dorchester, . . .	Dorchester Branch, . . .	Mrs. Elizabeth T. Reed.
East Boston, . . .	East Boston Branch, . . .	Ellen O. Walkley.
Jamaica Plain, . . .	Jamaica Plain Branch, . . .	Mary P. Swain.
Roxbury, . . .	Roxbury Branch, . . .	Helen M. Bell.
South Boston, . . .	South Boston Branch, . . .	Alice M. Robinson.
South End, . . .	South End Branch, . . .	Margaret A. Sheridan.
West End, . . .	West End Branch, . . .	Mrs. Eliza R. Davis.
West Roxbury, . . .	West Roxbury Branch, . . .	Carrie L. Morse.
Bourne, . . .	Jonathan Bourne Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Edith Florence Nickerson.
Boxborough, . . .	Boxborough Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Mabel P. Robbins.
Boxford, . . .	Boxford Public Library, . . .	Bessie Cleaveland.
West Boxford, . . .	West Boxford Public Library, . . .	Nellie M. Spofford.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Boylston,	Boylston Public Library,	George L. Wright.
Braintree,	Thayer Public Library,	Abbie M. Arnold.
Brewster,	Brewster Ladies' Library Association.	Alma Rogers.
Bridgewater,	Bridgewater Public Library,	Lucia L. Christian.
Brimfield,	Brimfield Public Library,	Mary Anna Tarbell.
BROCKTON,	Brockton Public Library,	Frank Hayden Whitmore.
<i>Campello,</i>	Campello Branch,	Wealthy A. Holmes.
<i>Montello,</i>	Montello Branch,	Mrs. Abbie L. Curtis.
Brookfield,	Merrick Public Library,	Eliza R. Hobbs.
<i>East Brookfield,</i>	East Brookfield Branch,	Clarence O. Davis.
Brookline,	Public Library of Brookline,	Louisa M. Hooper.
<i>Coolidge Corner,</i>	Coolidge Corner Station,	Alfred J. Hayman.
<i>Boylston Street,</i>	Boylston Station,	Catherine A. O'Brien.
Buckland,	Buckland Public Church Library,	Charles W. Trow.
Burlington,	Burlington Public Library,	Florence Isabell Foster.
CAMBRIDGE,	Cambridge Public Library,	Clarence Walter Ayer.
<i>East Cambridge,</i>	East Cambridge Branch,	Mary Curtis.
<i>North Cambridge,</i>	North Cambridge Branch,	Ellen M. Hayes.
Canton,	Canton Public Library,	Mrs. Lucy D. Downes.
Carlisle,	Gleason Public Library,	Mrs. Mary A. Green.
Carver,	Carver Public Library,	Mrs. Bernice Esther Barrows.
<i>South Carver,</i>	South Carver Branch,	Henry S. Griffith.
<i>East Carver,</i>	East Carver Branch,	Mrs. Elizabeth Drew.
<i>West Carver,</i>	West Carver Branch,	Blanche E. Vinal.
<i>Bates Pond,</i>	Bates Pond Branch,	—
Charlemont,	Charlemont Free Town Library,	Juliet Bacon Smith.
Charlton,	Charlton Free Public Library,	Mrs. Hattie L. Carpenter.
Chatham,	Eldredge Public Library,	Mrs. Florence Howes Bond.
Chelmsford,	Adams Library,	Edwin R. Clark.
<i>North Chelmsford,</i>	North Chelmsford Library Association.	Emma J. Gay.
CHELSEA,	Fitz Public Library,	Medora Jennett Simpson.
Cheshire,	Cheshire Library Association,	Emma E. Martin.
Chester,	Chester Free Public Library,	Grace Mildred Alvord.
Chesterfield,	Chesterfield Free Public Library,	James D. Stall.
<i>West Chesterfield,</i>	West Chesterfield Branch,	Mrs. Gilbert B. Healy.
CHICOPEE,	Chicopee City Library,	Anne Alcott Smith.
<i>Chicopee Falls,</i>	Chicopee Falls Branch,	Emma E. Gorton.
<i>Willimansett,</i>	Willimansett Branch,	Mrs. Elmer Kidder.
Chilmark,	Chilmark Free Library,	Mrs. Florence B. Mayhew.
Clarksburg,	Clarksburg Public Library,	Robert S. McKay.
Clinton,	Bigelow Free Public Library,	Charlotte L. Greene.
Cohasset,	Paul Pratt Memorial Library,	Sarah B. Collier.
Colrain,	Colrain Free Library,	Mrs. Katherine Holton Cram.
<i>Adamsville,</i>	Adamsville Branch,	Frank A. Brown.
<i>Christian Hill,</i>	Christian Hill Branch,	Mrs. O. H. Taylor.
Concord,	Concord Free Public Library,	Helen Whitney Kelley.
Conway,	Field Memorial Library,	Grace Pease.
Cottage City,	Cottage City Free Public Library,	Mrs. Adalyn A. Ripley.
Cummington,	Bryant Free Library,	Lorenzo H. Tower.
Dalton,	Dalton Free Public Library,	Mrs. Minnie E. Davison.
Dana,	Dana Centre Public Library,	Mrs. Susan E. Stevens.
<i>North Dana,</i>	North Dana Public Library,	Grace Haskins.
Danvers,	Peabody Institute Library,	Mrs. Emilie D. Patch.
Dartmouth,	Dartmouth Free Public Library,	Mary A. Tucker.
<i>South Dartmouth,</i>	Southworth Library,	Helen Allen Cushman.
Dedham,	Dedham Public Library,	Frances M. Mann.
<i>Oakdale,</i>	Oakdale Branch,	David C. Valentine.
Deerfield,	Dickinson Library,	Minnie Hawks.
<i>South Deerfield,</i>	South Deerfield Town Library,	Martha A. Pierce.
<i>Mill River,</i>	Mill River Branch,	Mrs. Lucy W. Lee.
<i>East Deerfield,</i>	East Deerfield Branch,	Jennie Slocomb.
<i>South Wisdom,</i>	South Wisdom Branch,	Myrtle Fuller.
<i>North Wisdom,</i>	North Wisdom Branch,	Bertha Bassett.
<i>Deerfield,</i>	Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association Library.	George Sheldon.
Dennis,	Jacob Sears Memorial Library,	Mrs. Nathan Sears.
Dighton,	Dighton Free Public Library,	Emma B. Horton.
Douglas,	Simon Fairfield Public Library,	Vera H. Warner.
Dover,	Dover Town Library,	Alma M. Chickering.
<i>First Parish,</i>	Barden Library,	Martha E. Colburn.
Dracut,	Dracut Public Library,	Mrs. Truman W. Hill.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Dudley.	Dudley Free Public Library.	Caroline E. Easterbrook.
Dunstable.	Dunstable Free Public Library.	Mrs. Lizzie A. Swallow.
Duxbury.	Duxbury Free Library.	Sara B. Higgins.
East Bridgewater.	East Bridgewater Public Library.	Lucy L. Siddall.
Eastham.	Eastham Public Library.	Mrs. Sarah B. Clark.
Easthampton.	Public Library Association.	Dorcas Chapin Miller.
East Longmeadow.	E. Longmeadow Public Library.	Mary R. McIntosh.
Easton.	Ames Free Library.	Mary Lavinia Lamprey.
Edgartown.	Edgartown Free Public Library.	Eunice C. Ripley.
Egremont.	Egremont Free Library.	Mrs. Hoyt Brown.
North Egremont.	North Egremont Branch.	Bessie Millard.
West Egremont.	West Egremont Branch.	Mrs. George W. Smith.
Enfield.	Enfield Library Association.	Ada L. Harwood.
Erving.	Erving Free Public Library.	Mrs. W. G. Walkup.
Miller's Falls.	Miller's Falls Branch.	A. W. Butman.
Essex.	T. O. H. P. Burnham Public Library.	Ethelyn B. Story.
EVERETT.	Frederick E. Parlin Memorial Library.	Ellen Louisa Johnson.
East Everett.	Shute Memorial Library.	Mrs. Leona C. Lydiard.
Fairhaven.	The Millicent Library.	Drew B. Hall.
FALL RIVER.	Fall River Public Library.	George W. Rankin.
Falmouth.	Falmouth Free Public Library.	Pamela Frances Robbins.
West Falmouth.	West Falmouth Library.	Albert S. Bowerman.
Woods Hole.	Woods Hole Library.	Joseph Walsh.
FITCHBURG.	Public Library of Fitchburg.	George Edward Nutting.
Florida.	Florida Free Public Library.	Mrs. Elizabeth J. Whitcomb.
Foxborough.	Boyden Public Library.	Mary D. Torrey.
Framingham.	Framingham Town Library.	Emma Leonore Clarke.
Franklin.	Franklin Library Association.	Mrs. Ella G. Campbell.
Freetown.	Guilford H. Hathaway Library.	Mary Florence Dean.
East Freetown.	East Freetown Circulating Library.	Elizabeth W. Lawrence.
Gardner.	Levi Heywood Memorial Library.	Mary Reynolds Clarke.
Gay Head.	Gay Head Public Library.	Harry G. Reed.
Georgetown.	Georgetown Peabody Library.	Sara T. Noyes.
Gill.	Gill Free Public Library.	Otis F. Hale.
Riverside.	Riverside Branch.	Frank D. Jones.
GLOUCESTER.	Sawyer Free Library.	Rachel Sawyer Webber.
Gloucester.	Free City Library.	Isabel A. Murphy.
Magnolia.	Magnolia Library.	Elizabeth T. Thornton.
Annisquam.	Village Hall Library.	Helen Lane, <i>Chairman</i> .
Goshen.	Goshen Free Public Library.	Winnie Alvey Dresser.
Gosnold.	Gosnold Free Public Library.	Mrs. Bertha L. Stetson.
Grafton.	Grafton Public Library.	Mabel L. Howe.
Granby.	Granby Free Public Library.	Cora H. Kellogg.
Granville.	Granville Public Library.	Mabel H. Root.
Granville Centre.	Granville Centre Branch.	Henry D. Colton.
West Granville.	West Granville Branch.	Joseph Welch.
Great Barrington.	Great Barrington Free Library.	Emma W. Sheldon.
Greenfield.	Greenfield Public Library.	May Ashley.
Greenfield.	Greenfield Library Association.	Almeda Burnett Robbins.
Greenwich.	Greenwich Public Library.	Helen I. Nevins.
Groton.	Groton Public Library.	Emma F. Blood.
Groveland.	Groveland Public Library.	Louise Florence Cammett.
South Groveland.	Hale Library.	Edward L. Sides.
Hadley.	Hadley Free Library.	George C. Marsh.
North Hadley.	North Hadley Branch.	O. W. Prouty.
Halifax.	Holmes Public Library.	James T. Thomas.
Hamilton.	Hamilton Public Library.	Mrs. Grace C. Stone.
Hampden.	Hampden Free Public Library.	Mrs. John Q. Adams.
Hancock.	Hancock Public Library.	Annie Hadselle Morey.
North Hancock.	North Hancock Branch.	Alona Harrington.
Hanover.	John Curtis Free Library.	Alice Loring Bailey.
Hanson, South.	Hanson Public Library, <i>South</i> .	Mrs. Abbie F. Phillips.
Hanson, North.	Hanson Public Library, <i>North</i> .	Mary J. Drew.
New State.	New State Branch.	Mrs. Mary F. Bates.
Maquan.	Maquan Branch.	Lucy L. Bryant.
North Hanson.	Hanson Library Association.	Mary J. Drew.
Hardwick.	Paige Memorial Library.	Nettie C. Bridges.
Gilbertville.	Gilbertville Public Library.	Andrew Bacher.
Harvard.	Harvard Public Library.	Estelle E. Willard.
Still River.	Still River Branch.	Mrs. A. H. Keys.
Harwich.	Broad Brooks Free Library.	Lulu B. Tobey.
Hatfield.	Hatfield Free Public Library.	Chester M. Barton.
Bradstreet.	Bradstreet Branch.	Mrs. Reuben H. Belden.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
HAVERHILL,	Haverhill Public Library,	John Grant Moulton.
Washington Square,	Washington Square Branch,	Martha E. Barrows and Grace L. Hatch.
Ayer's Village,	Ayer's Village Branch,	Edwin M. Haseltine.
Rocks Village,	Rocks Village Branch,	A. Pearl Sawyer.
Bradford,	Bradford Branch,	Kate E. Johnson.
Hawley,	Hawley Free Public Library,	Mrs. Morris N. Brown.
West Hawley,	Hawley Free Public Library,	Mrs. Delia E. Vincent.
Heath,	Heath Free Public Library,	Henry Kirk Smith.
Hingham,	Hingham Public Library,	Hawkes Fearing.
Nantasket,	Nantasket Library,	Mary Wentworth Clark.
Hinsdale,	Hinsdale Public Library Association,	James Hosmer.
Holbrook,	Holbrook Public Library,	Zenas Aaron French.
Holden,	Gale Free Library,	Mrs. Addie M. Holden.
Holland,	Holland Public Library,	Delia M. Blodgett.
Holliston,	Holliston Public Library,	Josephine E. Rockwood.
HOLYOKE,	Holyoke Public Library,	Frank Grenell Wilcox.
Hopedale,	Bancroft Memorial Library,	Harriet B. Sornborger.
Hopkinton,	Hopkinton Public Library,	Effie L. Woods.
Hubbardston,	Hubbardston Free Public Library,	Lucy Harriet Grimes.
Hudson,	Hudson Public Library,	Mrs. Grace M. Whittemore.
Hull,	Hull Village Library,	Carrie E. Mitchell.
Huntington,	Huntington Free Library,	Mrs. Adeline E. Munson.
Norwich Hill,	Norwich Hill Branch,	Henry Stickney.
Knightville,	Knightville Branch,	Clarence Bates.
Hyde Park,	Hyde Park Public Library,	Elizabeth Ainsworth.
Readville,	Readville Branch,	Henry M. Dean, Jr.
Ipswich,	Ipswich Free Public Library,	Mrs. Mary B. Maine.
Kingston,	Frederic C. Adams Public Library,	Mrs. Jennie F. McLauthlen.
Lakeville,	Lakeville Free Public Library,	Mary Luella Nelson.
North Lakeville,	North Branch,	Mrs. William F. Harlow.
South Lakeville,	South Branch,	Mrs. Sally Winslow.
Lancaster,	Lancaster Town Library,	Virginia M. Keyes.
Lanesborough,	Lanesborough Town Library,	Mabel Rhinehart.
LAWRENCE,	Lawrence Free Public Library,	William A. Walsh.
South Lawrence,	South Lawrence Branch,	—
Lee,	Lee Public Library,	Mary Stallman.
Leicester,	Leicester Public Library,	Mary Whittemore Warren.
Greenville,	Copeland Memorial Library,	Rev. Henry Schwab.
Rochdale,	Rochdale Branch,	Mrs. Arthur Woodhead.
Lenox,	Lenox Library,	Anna Louise White.
Leominster,	Leominster Public Library,	Florence Ethel Wheeler.
Leverett,	Leverett Free Public Library,	Elsie R. Ames.
Hillsborough,	Hillsborough Branch,	Mrs. Etta Ball.
Moore's Corner,	Moore's Corner Branch,	Mrs. Frank Bourne.
North Leverett,	North Leverett Free Public Library,	Edith Ella Fisk.
Lexington,	Cary Memorial Library,	Marian P. Kirkland.
East Lexington,	East Lexington Branch,	Emma Ostrom Nichols.
Leyden,	Leyden Free Public Library,	Belknap Severance.
Lincoln,	Lincoln Public Library,	Lydia J. Chapin.
Littleton,	Reuben Hoar Library,	Mrs. Adelia M. Parker.
Longmeadow,	Longmeadow Town Library,	Mrs. Katharine C. Gates.
LOWELL,	City Library of Lowell,	Frederick A. Chase.
Ludlow,	Hubbard Memorial Library,	Edith H. Crowninshield.
Lunenburg,	Lunenburg Public Library,	L. Frances Jones.
LYNN,	Lynn Free Public Library,	Harriet Louise Matthews.
Lynnfield,	Lynnfield Free Public Library,	Elizabeth W. Green.
MALDEN,	Malden Public Library,	Lizzie A. Williams.
Manchester,	Manchester Public Library,	Delucena Lothrop Bingham.
Mansfield,	Mansfield Public Library,	Ida Frances Hodges.
Marblehead,	Abbot Public Library,	Mrs. Sarah E. Gregory.
Marion,	Marion Library Association,	Alice Austin Ryder.
MARLBOROUGH,	Marlborough Public Library,	Sarah E. Cotting.
Robin Hill,	Robin Hill Improvement Society,	Mrs. George Hanley.
Marshfield,	Ventress Free Library,	Joshua T. Baker.
Marshfield Hills,	Clift Rodgers Free Library,	Jennie Ford.
Mashpee,	Mashpee Free Public Library,	Clara N. Collins.
South Mashpee,	South Mashpee Branch,	Mrs. Adeline Mills.
Mattapoisett,	Mattapoisett Free Public Library,	Clara F. Sherman.
Maynard,	Maynard Public Library,	Mrs. Sarah Frances Nyman.
Medfield,	Medfield Public Library,	Lucretia M. Johnson.
MEDFORD,	Medford Public Library,	Mary E. Sargent.
Medway, West,	Medway Free Public Library,	Mrs. Anna Fales.
Medway Village,	Dean Library,	Bertha C. Newell.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
MELROSE, . . .	Melrose Public Library, . . .	Carrie M. Worthen.
Mendon, . . .	Taft Public Library, . . .	Annie W. Gaskill.
Merrimac, . . .	Merrimac Public Library, . . .	Louise C. Brackett.
Methuen, . . .	Nevins Memorial Library, . . .	Harriet L. Crosby.
Middleborough, . . .	Middleborough Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Adelaide K. Thatcher.
Middlefield, . . .	Middlefield Public Library, . . .	Metcalf J. Smith.
Bancroft, . . .	Bancroft Branch, . . .	Sarah L. Savery.
Middleton, . . .	Flint Public Library, . . .	Samuel A. Fletcher.
Milford, . . .	Milford Town Library, . . .	Nathaniel F. Blake.
Millbury, . . .	Millbury Town Library, . . .	Carolyn C. Waters.
Millis, . . .	Millis Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Annie Macdonough.
Milton, . . .	Milton Public Library, . . .	Gertrude Emmons Forrest.
East Milton, . . .	East Milton Reading Room, . . .	Josephine M. Babcock.
Mattapan, . . .	Mattapan Reading Room, . . .	Ellen F. Vose.
Russell, . . .	Russell Reading Room, . . .	Jennie W. Kennedy.
Milton Village, . . .	Milton Village Station, . . .	Mary M. Krim.
Monroe, . . .	Monroe Free Public Library, . . .	Lillian A. Gordon.
Monroe Bridge, . . .	Monroe Bridge Branch, . . .	Mrs. Hattie Brown.
Monson, . . .	Monson Free Library, . . .	Nellie F. Squier.
Montague, . . .	Montague Public Library, . . .	Kate A. Armstrong.
Miller's Falls, . . .	Miller's Falls Branch, . . .	Jessie E. Johnson.
Turner's Falls, . . .	Carnegie Public Library, . . .	Anna W. Batson.
Monterey, . . .	Monterey Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Hattie B. Bills.
Montgomery, . . .	Montgomery Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. D. L. Allyn.
Mount Washington, . . .	Mount Washington Free Library, . . .	—
Nahant, . . .	Nahant Public Library, . . .	May W. Perkins.
Nantucket, . . .	Nantucket Athenæum, . . .	Clara Parker.
Natick, . . .	Morse Institute Library, . . .	Mira R. Partridge.
South Natick, . . .	Bacon Free Library, . . .	Mrs. Adelaide Williams.
Needham, . . .	Needham Free Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Riella Juliana Dunn.
Highlandville, . . .	Highlandville Branch, . . .	Bertha E. Coburn.
New Ashford, . . .	New Ashford Public Library, . . .	—
NEW BEDFORD, . . .	Free Public Library of New Bedford, . . .	George H. Tripp.
North District, . . .	North Branch, . . .	William Brown.
South District, . . .	South Branch, . . .	Robert Allen.
New Braintree, . . .	New Braintree Free Public Library, . . .	Carrie Frances Bush.
NEWBURYPORT, . . .	Newburyport Public Library, . . .	John D. Parsons.
South Newburyport, . . .	South End Reading Room, . . .	Maud Heywood.
New Marlborough, . . .	New Marlborough Public Library, . . .	Katharine Clara Doyle.
Mill River, . . .	Mill River Branch, . . .	Mrs. W. R. Fields.
Clayton, . . .	Clayton Branch, . . .	—
Hartsville, . . .	Hartsville Branch, . . .	Mrs. Lura A. Doncaster.
Southfield, . . .	Southfield Branch, . . .	Kate L. Baldwin.
Southfield, . . .	Seymour Library Association, . . .	Kate L. Baldwin.
New Salem, . . .	New Salem Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Geneva Seig Ballard.
NEWTON, . . .	Newton Free Library, . . .	Elizabeth P. Thurston.
Auburndale, . . .	Auburndale Branch, . . .	Annie E. Bunker.
Newton Centre, . . .	Newton Centre Branch, . . .	Julia C. Henshaw.
Newton Upper Falls, . . .	Newton Upper Falls Branch, . . .	Mary E. Barnard.
West Newton, . . .	West Newton Branch, . . .	Helen Wheeler.
Norfolk, . . .	Norfolk Public Library, . . .	Walter L. Sykes.
NORTH ADAMS, . . .	North Adams Public Library, . . .	Mabel Temple.
Blackinton, . . .	Oscar A. Archer Branch, . . .	Gladys Hughes.
Braytonville, . . .	Braytonville Branch, . . .	Helen Brown.
Houghtonville, . . .	Houghtonville Branch, . . .	Sadie Henderson.
Beaver, . . .	Beaver Branch, . . .	Charles Prindle.
North Andover, . . .	North Andover Public Library, . . .	Hannah Josephine Quealy.
North Attleborough, . . .	Richards Memorial Library, . . .	Leda Jane Thompson.
Adamsdale, . . .	Adamsdale Branch, . . .	Nettie M. Perry.
New Boston, . . .	New Boston Branch, . . .	Maud Dalton.
North Brookfield, . . .	North Brookfield Free Public Library and Reading Room, . . .	Nellie L. Smith.
North Reading, . . .	Flint Library, . . .	Addie W. Gowing.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Northampton Public Library, . . .	Sarah D. Kellogg.
Florence, . . .	Florence Branch, . . .	Matilda P. Schwarz.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Forbes Library, . . .	William Parker Cutter.
Northborough, . . .	Northborough Free Library, . . .	Mary Evelyn Potter.
Northbridge, . . .	Whitinsville Social Library, . . .	Mrs. William H. Fuller.
Northfield, . . .	Dickinson Memorial Library, . . .	Mrs. C. A. Randall.
Norton, . . .	Norton Public Library, . . .	Emily A. Titus.
Norwell, . . .	James Library, . . .	Joseph F. Merritt.
Norwood, . . .	Morrill Memorial Library, . . .	Jane Atherton Hewitt.
Oakham, . . .	Oakham Free Public Library, . . .	Frank E. Davis.
Orange, . . .	Orange Free Public Library, . . .	Grace H. Dawley.
North Orange, . . .	North Orange Branch, . . .	Mrs. Sara E. Rich.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Orleans,	Snow Library,	Hiram Myers.
Otis,	Otis Free Public Library,	Mrs. Olive J. Davison.
Oxford,	Oxford Free Public Library,	Mrs. Clara A. Fuller.
North Oxford,	North Oxford Branch,	Nellie M. Tolman.
Palmer,	Young Men's Library Association,	Robert J. Fuller.
Paxton,	Paxton Free Public Library,	Rena Robinson.
Peabody,	Peabody Institute Library,	Lyman P. Osborn.
Peabody,	Eben Dale Sutton Reference Li- brary,	Augusta F. Daniels.
Pelham,	Pelham Free Public Library,	Mary A. Keith.
West Pelham,	West Pelham Branch,	Mrs. Lyman Allen.
Pembroke,	Pembroke Free Library,	Ellen F. Cox.
Bryantville,	Cobb Library,	Mrs. Julia W. Morton.
Pepperell,	Lawrence Library,	Mrs. M. Fannie Shattuck.
Peru,	Free Public Library of Peru,	Mrs. Josephine J. D. Barden.
Petersham,	Petersham Memorial Library,	Fannie Gordon Prince.
Phillipston,	Phillips Free Public Library,	Mrs. Flora V. Danforth.
PITTSFIELD,	Berkshire Athenæum,	Harlan H. Ballard.
Plainfield,	Plainfield Public Library,	Anna M. King.
Plymouth,	Plymouth Public Library,	Nellie Thomas.
North Plymouth,	Loring Reading Room,	Alice Crane.
Plympton,	Plympton Free Public Library,	John Sherman.
Prescott,	Prescott Free Public Library,	Flora A. Griswold.
East District,	East Branch,	Mrs. Flora Brown.
Hill District,	Hill Branch,	Helen A. Dickinson.
Princeton,	Princeton Public Library,	Susan A. Davis.
Provincetown,	Provincetown Public Library,	Abbie Cook Putnam.
QUINCY,	Thomas Crane Public Library,	Amelia L. Bumpus.
Randolph,	Turner Free Library,	Charles Chittenden Farnham.
Raynham,	Raynham Public Library,	Lucy W. Thompson.
North Raynham,	North Raynham Library Associa- tion,	Mrs. Mary H. Barton.
Reading,	Reading Public Library,	Bertha L. Brown.
Rehoboth,	Blanding Library,	Nettie M. Earle.
Revere,	Revere Public Library,	Harriet T. Fenno.
Richmond,	Richmond Free Public Library,	Mrs. Abbie E. Barnes.
Rochester,	Rochester Free Public Library,	Anne T. Ryder.
North Rochester,	North Rochester Branch,	Rev. John P. Trowbridge.
Rockland,	Rockland Memorial Library,	Angela W. Collins.
Rockport,	Rockport Public Library,	Elsie M. Dann.
Pigeon Cove,	Pigeon Cove Library,	Martha D. Fretch.
Rowe,	Rowe Town Library,	Mrs. Alice E. Newell.
Rowley,	Rowley Free Public Library,	Mrs. Catharine N. Mighill.
Royalston,	Royalston Public Library,	Mrs. Emeline E. Mackenzie.
Russell,	Russell Public Library,	Mrs. M. Belle Shelley.
Woronoco,	Woronoco Branch,	Mrs. Finlay Bower.
Russell Mountain,	Russell Mountain Branch,	Mrs. C. J. Thompson.
Rutland,	Rutland Free Public Library,	Mrs. Martha L. Prouty.
SALEM,	Salem Public Library,	Gardner M. Jones.
Salisbury,	Salisbury Public Library,	Alice R. Currier.
Sandisfield,	Sandisfield Public Library,	Carrie M. Barker.
Sandwich,	Sandwich Free Public Library,	Annie A. Rogers.
Saugus,	Saugus Free Public Library,	Emma E. Newhall.
Savoy,	Savoy Free Public Library,	William F. Briggs.
Scituate,	Satuit Library,	Blanche C. Gardner.
North Scituate,	Peirce Memorial Library,	Mrs. Mary L. Lee.
Seekonk,	Seekonk Public Library,	Edna T. Lane.
Sharon,	Sharon Public Library,	Emma A. Baker.
Sheffield,	Sheffield Free Town Library,	Mrs. Gertrude S. Gleason.
Shelburne,	Shelburne Free Public Library,	Mercy A. Anderson.
Shelburne Falls,	Arms Public Library,	Daniel W. Wilcox.
Sherborn,	Sherborn Town Library,	M. Nellie Clark.
Shirley,	Shirley Public Library,	Mrs. Alice Livermore Wright.
Shrewsbury,	Shrewsbury Free Public Library,	Mabel E. Knowlton.
Shutesbury,	Shutesbury Free Public Library,	Mary L. Clark.
Somerset,	Somerset Free Public Library,	Myra Babbitt.
SOMERVILLE,	Somerville Public Library,	Sam Walter Foss.
South Hadley,	Gaylord Memorial Library,	Rebecca Frances Smith.
South Hadley Falls,	South Hadley Free Public Library,	Grover C. Kirley.
Southampton,	Southampton Public Library,	Eva M. Gridley.
Southborough,	Fay Library,	Francena E. Buck.
Southbridge,	Southbridge Public Library,	Ella E. Miersch.
Southwick,	Southwick Public Library,	Wilder Bennett Harding.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians—Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
Spencer,	Richard Sugden Library,	Albert W. Curtis.
SPRINGFIELD,	City Library Association of Springfield.	Hiller C. Wellman.
Indian Orchard,	Indian Orchard Branch,	Nellie E. Dodge.
Ferry Street,	Ferry Street Branch,	Bessie Amsden.
Forest Park,	Forest Park Branch,	Harriet B. Winsor.
Sterling,	Sterling Free Public Library,	Mary D. Peck.
Stockbridge,	Stockbridge Library Association,	Caroline P. Wells.
Glendale,	Glendale Branch,	Volunteers.
Interlaken,	Interlaken Branch,	S. C. Burghardt.
Stoneham,	Stoneham Public Library,	Mrs. H. Marilla Boyce.
Stoughton,	Stoughton Public Library,	M. Alice Burnham.
Stow,	Randall Memorial Library,	Mrs. Susan M. Lawrence.
Sturbridge,	Joshua Hyde Public Library,	Mrs. Eunice C. Locke.
Sudbury,	Goodnow Library,	Mary L. Cutter.
Sunderland,	Sunderland Public Library,	Abbie T. Montague.
Sutton,	Sutton Free Library,	Sarah M. Mills.
Manchaug,	Manchaug Branch,	Francis Truscott.
South Sutton,	South Sutton Branch,	Mrs. Mary Littlefield.
West Sutton,	West Sutton Branch,	Jason Waters.
Wilkinsonville,	Wilkinsonville Branch,	Arthur Merrill.
Swampscott,	Swampscott Free Public Library,	Sarah Louise Honors.
Swansea,	Swansea Free Public Library,	Julia R. Wellington.
TAUNTON,	Taunton Public Library,	Joshua Eddy Crane.
Templeton,	Baynton Public Library,	Grace E. Blodgett.
Tewksbury,	Tewksbury Public Library,	Harriette G. Lee.
Tisbury,	Vineyard Haven Library,	Mabel T. Tilton.
Tolland,	Tolland Free Public Library,	Wilbert Munn.
Topsheld,	Topsheld Town Library,	Albert M. Dodge.
Townsend,	Townsend Public Library,	Mrs. Evelyn L. Warren.
Truro,	Truro Town Library,	Mrs. Laurena A. Ryder.
North Truro,	North Truro Branch,	Mrs. Elizabeth B. Small.
South Truro,	South Truro Branch,	Allison B. Cobb.
Tyngsborough,	Littlefield Library,	Ellen Lydia Perham.
Tyringham,	Tyringham Free Public Library,	Hazel Tinker.
Upton,	Upton Town Library,	Mrs. Laura C. Sadler.
Uxbridge,	Uxbridge Free Public Library,	Beatrice Putnam.
Wakefield,	Beebe Town Library,	Mrs. Harriet A. Shepard.
Greenwood,	Greenwood Branch,	H. Gertrude Lee.
Wales,	Wales Public Library,	Leon H. Thompson.
Walpole,	Walpole Public Library,	Ida J. Phelps.
East Walpole,	East Walpole Branch,	—
WALTHAM,	Waltham Public Library,	Mrs. Mary E. Bill.
Ware,	Young Men's Library Association,	Harriet B. Hayden.
Wareham,	Wareham Free Public Library,	Alexina P. Burgess.
Warren,	Warren Public Library,	Joseph Gilbert Hastings.
Warwick,	Warwick Free Library,	Clara A. Jones.
Watertown,	Free Public Library,	Solon F. Whitney.
Wayland,	Wayland Free Public Library,	Margaret E. Wheeler.
Webster,	Webster Free Public Library,	Mrs. Phoebe Palmer Kingsbury.
Wellesley,	Wellesley Free Library,	Florence May Osborne.
Wellfleet,	Wellfleet Public Library,	Mrs. Kate E. Brown.
Wendell,	Wendell Free Library,	Mrs. Mary E. White.
Farley,	Farley Branch,	Ethel Farley.
Wenham,	Wenham Public Library,	Benjamin H. Conant.
Westborough,	Westborough Public Library,	Mrs. Nellie F. Smith.
West Boylston,	West Boylston Public Library,	Annie M. Waite.
West Bridgewater,	West Bridgewater Public Library,	Mary L. Perkins.
West Brookfield,	Merriam Public Library,	Mary P. Foster.
Westfield,	Westfield Athenæum,	Herbert W. Denio.
Mundale,	Mundale Branch,	Rev. E. A. Brownell.
Westford,	J. V. Fletcher Library,	Mary P. Bunce.
Westhampton,	Westhampton Reunion Town Library.	George E. Knight.
Westminster,	Forbush Memorial Library,	Sadie F. Greene.
West Newbury,	West Newbury Public Library,	Caroline Carr.
First Parish,	First Parish Branch,	Mrs. Isabel A. Kennett.
Westport,	Westport Free Public Library,	Annie R. Howland.
Horseneck,	Horseneck Branch,	Mrs. Arthur Tuell.
Head of Westport,	Westport Public Library,	E. W. Burt, M.D.
South Westport,	South Westport Branch,	Mrs. Mary B. Gifford.
Brownell's Corner,	Brownell's Corner Branch,	Mrs. Jefferson Reynolds.
Westport Point,	Westport Point Library,	Casilda Cory.
West Springfield,	West Springfield Public Library,	Daniel G. White.

Names of Free Public Libraries and Names of Librarians — Con.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Name of Library.	Name of Librarian.
West Stockbridge, . . .	West Stockbridge Free Library, . . .	Frances J. Edwards.
West Tisbury, . . .	West Tisbury Free Public Library, . .	Cyrus Manter.
Weston, . . .	Weston Public Library, . . .	Maude M. Pennock.
Westwood, . . .	Westwood Public Library, . . .	Annie L. Richardson.
Weymouth, . . .	Tufts Library, . . .	Caroline Augusta Blanchard.
South Weymouth, . . .	Fogg Memorial Library, . . .	Ruth N. Tower.
Whately, . . .	Whately Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Ella L. Elder.
Whitman, . . .	Whitman Public Library, . . .	Ellena S. Spilsted.
Wilbraham, . . .	Free Public Library, . . .	Eunice M. Bates.
Williamsburg, . . .	Meekins Memorial Library, . . .	Ada May Chandler.
Haydenville, . . .	Haydenville Free Library, . . .	Thomas H. Ives.
Williamstown, . . .	Williamstown Public Library, . . .	Lucy F. Curtis.
South Williamstown, . . .	South Williamstown Public Library, . .	Mrs. Lucy Torrey Sanford.
Wilmington, . . .	Wilmington Public Library, . . .	Anna Tolman Sheldon.
Winchendon, . . .	Winchendon Public Library, . . .	Mrs. Sylvia M. Manzer.
Winchester, . . .	Winchester Public Library, . . .	Cora Ardella Quimby.
Windsor, . . .	Windsor Free Public Library, . . .	Agatha Bicknell.
Winthrop, . . .	Winthrop Public Library, . . .	Alice A. Munday.
Woburn, . . .	Woburn Public Library, . . .	William R. Cutter.
WORCESTER, . . .	Free Public Library of the City of Worcester.	Samuel Swett Green.
Belmont Street, . . .	Belmont Street Branch, . . .	John T. Ekman.
Grafton Square, . . .	Grafton Square Branch, . . .	James A. Manley.
Greendale, . . .	Greendale Branch, . . .	M. L. Blanche Hamel.
Lake View, . . .	Lake View Branch, . . .	Rev. William A. Fobes.
New Worcester, . . .	New Worcester Branch, . . .	William Alonzo Barrows.
Quinsigamond, . . .	Quinsigamond Branch, . . .	Verner G. Anderson.
South Worcester, . . .	South Worcester Branch, . . .	C. J. Foley.
Tatnuck, . . .	Tatnuck Branch, . . .	Eva J. Prentiss.
Worthington, . . .	Worthington Free Library, . . .	Katharine McD. Rice.
Wrentham, . . .	Wrentham Public Library, . . .	Mary Adelaide Smith.
Yarmouth, . . .	Yarmouth Library Association, . . .	Mrs. Lydia C. Matthews.
South Yarmouth, . . .	Free Social Library, . . .	Mrs. Tamsen F. Baker.
West Yarmouth, . . .	West Yarmouth Library, . . .	Mrs. Maria Taylor.

APPENDIX II.

A ROLL OF HONOR.

LIST OF GIVERS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BUILDINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

GIVERS OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

ACTON,	Gift of Hon. William A. Wilde of Malden.
AMESBURY,	Bequest of Mary A. Barnard and others.
AMHERST, NORTH,	Mainly the gift of citizens.
ANDOVER,	Gift of citizens.
ARLINGTON,	Gift of Mrs. Maria C. Robbins of Brooklyn, N. Y., as a memorial of her husband.
ASHBURNHAM,	Gift of George F. Stevens.
ASHBY,	Gift of Edwin Chapman of Boston.
ASHLAND,	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ATHOL,	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ATTLEBOROUGH,	Gift of citizens.
AYER,	Gift of Frederick F. Ayer of New York.
BARNSTABLE,	Gift of Hon. William Sturgis of Boston.
BARRE,	Gift of Henry Woods of Boston.
BECKET,	Gift of Miss Blanche Perkins, as a memorial of her parents.
BELCHERTOWN,	Bequest of John Francis Clapp.
BELMONT,	Gift of Henry O. Underwood.
BERNARDSTON,	Gift of Hon. Henry W. Cushman.
BILLERICA,	Gift of Mrs. Joshua Bennett.
BLANDFORD,	Gift of Mrs. Josephine E. S. Porter of Hartford, as a memorial of her son, Edgar Sheffield Porter.
BOLTON,	Gift of Annie Eliza Whitney of Lancaster.
BOURNE,	Gift of Miss Emily H. Bourne, as a memorial of her father, the Hon. Jonathan Bourne.
BOYLSTON,	Gift of Miss Salome E. White of Brooklyn, N. Y., as a memorial of her mother, Mrs. Harriet Sawyer White.
BRAINTREE,	Gift of Gen. Sylvanus Thayer.
BRIMFIELD,	Gift of James Danielson Lincoln, as a memorial of his mother and his wife.
BROOKFIELD,	Gift of William A. Banister of New York.
CAMBRIDGE,	Gift of Frederick H. Rindge of Los Angeles.
CANTON,	Gift of Augustus Hemenway.
CARLISLE,	Gift of Mrs. Joanna Gleason of Sudbury.
CHARLEMONT,	Gift of E. R. Goodnow and other citizens.
CHATHAM,	Gift of Hon. Marcellus Eldredge.
CHELMSFORD,	Gift of Amos F. Adams of Boston.
CHELSEA,	Gift of Hon. Eustace C. Fitz.
CLINTON,	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
COHASSET,	Memorial of Paul Pratt.

CONCORD, . . .	. Gift of William Munroe.
CONWAY, . . .	. Gift of Hon. Marshall Field of Chicago, as a memorial of his parents.
CUMMINGTON, . . .	. Gift of William Cullen Bryant.
DALTON, . . .	. Gift of the Crane family.
DANVERS, . . .	. Gift of George Peabody.
DARTMOUTH, SOUTH, . . .	. Gift of John H. Southworth of Springfield.
DEDHAM, . . .	. Bequests and gifts of citizens.
DEERFIELD, . . .	. Bequest of Mrs. Esther Dickinson.
DENNIS, . . .	. Bequest of Jacob Sears.
DOUGLAS, . . .	. Gift of James M. Fairfield of Boston, as a memorial of his father and mother, Simon and Phoebe Churchill Fairfield.
DUNSTABLE, . . .	. Bequest of Mrs. Sarah Roby for a town hall and Library building.
DUXBURY, . . .	. Gift of Mrs. George W. Wright, as a memorial of her son, George Buckham Wright.
EAST BRIDGEWATER, . . .	. Gift of Cyrus Washburn of Wellesley.
EASTHAM, . . .	. Gift of Eastham Village Improvement Society.
EASTHAMPTON, . . .	. Gift of Mrs. Emily G. Williston.
EASTON, . . .	. Gift of Hon. Oliver Ames and Mrs. Sarah L. Ames.
EDGARTOWN, . . .	. Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ESSEX, . . .	. Bequest of T. O. H. P. Burnham of Boston.
EVERETT, . . .	. Gift of Albert M. Parlin, as a memorial of his son.
<i>East Everett,</i> . . .	. Bequest of William Shute.
FAIRHAVEN, . . .	. Gift of Henry H. and Abbie P. Rogers, as a memorial of their daughter, Millicent.
FITCHBURG, . . .	. Gift of Hon. Rodney Wallace.
FRANKLIN, . . .	. Gift of daughters of Hon. Joseph G. Ray, as a memorial of their father.
FREETOWN, . . .	. Gift of Mrs. E. Florence Hathaway Crowell, as a memorial of her father, Hon. Guilford B. Hathaway.
GARDNER, . . .	. Gift of children of Levi Heywood.
GEORGETOWN, . . .	. Gift of George Peabody.
GLOUCESTER, . . .	. Gift of Samuel E. Sawyer.
GRANVILLE, . . .	. Gift of Hon. M. B. Whitney and others.
GREAT BARRINGTON, . . .	. Gift of heirs of Thomas G. Ramsdell, as a memorial of their father at Housatonic.
GROTON, . . .	. Partly the gift of Mrs. Charlotte A. L. Sibley.
HADLEY, . . .	. Gift of John Dwight and others.
HARVARD, . . .	. Mainly the gift of natives of the town.
HATFIELD, . . .	. Bequest of Samuel H. Dickinson.
HAVERHILL, . . .	. Gift of Hon. E. J. M. Hale and other citizens.
HINGHAM, . . .	. Gift of Hon. Albert Fearing.
HINSDALE, . . .	. Gift of citizens.
HOLDEN, . . .	. Gift of Hon. Samuel C. Gale of Minneapolis.
HOLLISTON, . . .	. Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
HOLYOKE, . . .	. Gift of citizens.
HOPEDALE, . . .	. Gift of Joseph B. Bancroft, as a memorial of his wife, Mrs. Sylvia Thwing Bancroft.
HOPKINTON, . . .	. Gift of natives and residents of the town.
HUBBARDSTON . . .	. Gift of Jonas G. Clark of Worcester.

HUDSON, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
IPSWICH, . . .	Gift of Capt. Augustine Heard.
KINGSTON, . . .	Bequest of Frederic C. Adams.
LANCASTER, . . .	Mainly the gift of Nathaniel Thayer and his sons.
LAWRENCE, . . .	Gift of Mrs. N. G. White and Miss E. A. White.
LEE, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie and town appropriation.
LEICESTER, . . .	Gift of Lory S. Watson, Dr. Pliny Earle, David E. Merriam and others.
LENOX, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Adeline E. Schermerhorn.
LEXINGTON, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Maria Cary, for a town hall and library building ; gift of heirs of Mrs. Maria Cary, for separate library building.
LINCOLN, . . .	Gift of George Grosvenor Tarbell.
LITTLETON, . . .	Gift of children of William Stevens Houghton, as a memorial of their father.
LUDLOW, . . .	Gift of heirs of Charles T. Hubbard.
LYNN, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth M. Shute, as a memorial of her husband.
MALDEN, . . .	Gift of Hon. Elisha S. Converse and his wife, as a memorial of their son.
MANCHESTER, . . .	Gift of Thomas Jefferson Coolidge.
MANSFIELD, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth F. Noble and others.
MARBLEHEAD, . . .	Bequest of Benjamin Abbot of Boston.
MARION, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Taber of New Bedford.
MARLBOROUGH, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
MARSHFIELD, . . .	Bequest of Seth J. Ventress, for a library at Marshfield ; also gift of Clift Rogers, for a library at Marshfield Hills.
MATTAPOISETT, . . .	Gift of George Purrington, Jr.
MEDFORD, . . .	Gift of Thatcher Magoun.
MELROSE, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
METHUEN, . . .	Gift of heirs of David Nevins.
MIDDLEBOROUGH, . . .	Bequest of Thomas S. Peirce.
MIDDLETON, . . .	Bequest of Hon. Charles L. Flint.
MONSON, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Carrie R. Dale, as a memorial of her father, Horatio Lyon.
MONTAGUE, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie, for a building at Turner's Falls.
NATICK, . . .	Bequest of Miss Mary Ann Morse.
<i>South Natick,</i> . . .	Bequest of Oliver Bacon.
NEEDHAM, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie, for a building at Highlandville.
NEWBURYPORT, . . .	Gift of citizens.
<i>South Newburyport,</i> . . .	Gift of William H. Swasey and other citizens.
NEWTON, . . .	Gift of J. Wiley Edmunds and other citizens.
NORTH ADAMS, . . .	Gift of Hon. Albert C. Houghton, as a memorial of his brother Andrew Jackson Houghton.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Bequest of John Clarke, supplemented by other gifts and by the city.
NORTHAMPTON, . . .	Bequest of Hon. Charles Edward Forbes.
<i>Florence,</i> . . .	Gift of Alfred T. Lilly.
NORTH ANDOVER, . . .	Gift of Hon. Moses T. Stevens.
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, . . .	Gift of children of Edmund I. and Lucy N. Richards, as a memorial of their parents.
NORTHBOROUGH, . . .	Gift of Cyrus Gale.
NORTH BROOKFIELD, . . .	Mainly the gift of Erasmus Haston.

NORTHFIELD, . . .	Gift of Elijah M. Dickinson of Fitchburg.
NORTH READING, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Charles F. Flint.
NORTON, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Eliza B. Wheaton.
NORWOOD, . . .	Gift of George H. Morrill and wife, as a memorial of their daughter, Miss Sarah Bond Morrill.
OAKHAM, . . .	Bequest of Charles Fobes of Petersham, as a memorial of his father, Ames Fobes.
ORLEANS, . . .	Built partly by subscriptions.
OXFORD, . . .	Gift of Charles Larned of Boston.
PEABODY, . . .	Gift of George Peabody.
PEMBROKE (<i>Bryantville</i>), . . .	Gift of Mrs. Rozilla Cobb.
PEPPERELL, . . .	Bequest of Charles F. Lawrence of New York.
PETERSHAM, . . .	Built mainly by subscriptions.
PITTSFIELD, . . .	Gift of Hon. Thomas Allen.
PLYMOUTH, . . .	Gift of daughters of William G. Russell.
PRINCETON, . . .	Gift of Edward A. Goodnow, as a family memorial.
PROVINCETOWN, . . .	Gift of Hon. Nathan Freeman.
QUINCY, . . .	Gift of heirs of Thomas Crane.
RANDOLPH, . . .	Gift of heirs of Col. Royal Turner.
REHOBOTH, . . .	Gifts of Darius Goff of Pawtucket, R. I.
REVERE, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ROCHESTER, . . .	Partly the gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Leonard of New Bedford.
ROCKLAND, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
ROCKPORT, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
SALEM, . . .	Gift of heirs of Capt. John Bertram.
SCITUATE, NORTH, . . .	Gift of Silas Peirce of Boston, as a memorial of his wife.
SHIRLEY, . . .	Built mainly by bequest of Mrs. Betsey D. Hazen.
SHREWSBURY, . . .	Bequest of Jubal Howe.
SHUTESBURY, . . .	Bequest of Mirick N. Spear of Amherst.
SOMERSET, . . .	Bequest of Mrs. Sarah Hood.
SOUTHAMPTON, . . .	Gift of Winslow H. Edwards, as a memorial of his father.
SOUTHBRIDGE, . . .	Gift of Holmes Ammidown of New York.
SOUTH HADLEY, . . .	Gift of William H. Gaylord, also gift of Andrew Carnegie, for a building at South Hadley Falls.
SPENCER, . . .	Gift of Richard Sugden.
SPRINGFIELD, . . .	Gift of the City Library Association (1870); Gift of Andrew Carnegie (1905).
STERLING, . . .	Gift of Edward Conant of Worcester, as a memorial of his daughter, Elizabeth Anne.
STOCKBRIDGE, . . .	Gift of Hon. John Z. Goodrich.
STONEHAM, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
STOUGHTON, . . .	Gift of Lucius Clapp of Randolph.
STOW, . . .	Gift of Miss Belinda Lull Randall, for estate of John Witt Randall.
STURBRIDGE, . . .	Bequest of George B. Hyde of Boston, as a memorial of his father, Joshua Hyde.
SUDBURY, . . .	Bequest of John Goodnow of Boston.
SUNDERLAND, . . .	Gift of John Long Graves.
SWANSEA, . . .	Gift of Hon. F. S. Stevens.
TAUNTON, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.

TYNGSBOROUGH, . . .	Bequest of Mrs. Lucy Littlefield, as a memorial of her daughter, supplemented by an appropriation by the town.
UXBRIDGE, . . .	Gift of Hon. Edward C. Thayer of Keene, N. H.
WALPOLE, . . .	Gift of Andrew Carnegie.
WARE, . . .	Gift of Hon. William Hyde and others.
WARREN, . . .	Gift of Nathan Richardson and others.
WATERTOWN, . . .	Built by Hollis H. Hunnewell and others.
WAYLAND, . . .	Bequest of Warren Gould Roby.
WELLESLEY, . . .	Gift of Hollis H. Hunnewell.
WEST BROOKFIELD, . . .	Gift of Charles Merriam of Springfield.
WESTFORD, . . .	Gift of Hon. John Varnum Fletcher.
WESTMINSTER, . . .	Bequest of Charles A. Forbush.
WESTWOOD, . . .	Gift of Howard Colburn.
WEYMOUTH, . . .	Gift of Quincy Tufts and his sister, Miss Susan Tufts.
<i>South Weymouth,</i> . . .	Bequest of John S. Fogg.
WILLIAMSBURG, . . .	Bequest of Stephen Meekins.
<i>Haydenville,</i> . . .	Gift of Miss Anna Hayden.
WINTHROP, . . .	Gift of Mrs. Eliza W. Frost, as a memorial of her husband, supplemented by an appropriation by the town.
WOBURN, . . .	Bequest of Charles Bowers Winn, as a memorial of his father.
WRENTHAM, . . .	Gift of heirs of Hon. Josiah J. Fiske.
YARMOUTH, . . .	Gift of Nathan Matthews of Boston.

APPENDIX III.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY LAWS
OF
MASSACHUSETTS.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

REVISED LAWS, 1902, CHAPTER 38.

GENERAL PROVISION.

SECTION 1. Library corporations and associations which have been legally established shall continue to have all the powers and privileges and be subject to all the duties and restrictions attaching thereto.

LAW LIBRARIES.

SECTION 2. Attorneys at law who have been admitted to practise in the courts of the commonwealth and who are resident in a county for which there is no law library association may organize as a corporation, under the provisions of chapter one hundred and twenty-five, by the name of the Law Library Association for such county, and may adopt by-laws which shall be subject to the approval of the superior court.

SECTION 3. The inhabitants of the county shall have access to the library and may use the books therein, subject to the provisions of the by-laws.

SECTION 4. County treasurers shall annually pay to the law library associations in their respective counties all sums which are paid into the county treasuries during the year by the clerks of the courts, to an amount not exceeding two thousand dollars in any one year. They may also pay to said associations such further sums as the county commissioners may consider are necessary and proper. All sums which are so paid shall be applied to maintain and enlarge such libraries for the use of the courts and citizens. The treasurer of the law library association, before receiving any money from the county treasurer, shall give bond, with sureties to the satisfaction of the commissioners, for the faithful application of such money, and that he will make a return annually to them, under oath, of the manner in which it has been expended.

SECTION 5. Each law library association shall be entitled to receive from the sergeant-at-arms, immediately after their publication, one copy of the legislative documents of the senate and house, the journal of the senate and the journal of the house.

CITY AND TOWN LIBRARIES.

SECTION 6. A city or town may establish and maintain public libraries for the use of its inhabitants, under regulations prescribed by the city council or by the town, and may receive, hold and manage any gift, bequest or devise for such library. The city council of a city or the selectmen of a town may place in such library the books, reports and laws which may be received from the commonwealth.

TRUSTEES OF TOWN LIBRARIES.

SECTION 7. A town which raises or appropriates money for the support of a free public library, or free public library and reading room, owned by the town, shall, at an annual meeting or special meeting, unless the same has been acquired entirely or in part through some gift or bequest which contains other conditions or provisions for the election of its trustees or for its care and management which have been accepted by the town, elect by ballot a board of trustees consisting of any number of persons, male or female, divisible by three, which the town determines to elect. When such board is first chosen, one-third thereof shall be elected for one year, one-third for two years and one-third for three years, and thereafter one-third shall be elected annually for the term of three years. The board shall, from its own number, annually choose a chairman and secretary and, if the town so votes, a treasurer, who shall give a bond similar to that given by the town treasurer, in an amount and with sureties to the satisfaction of the selectmen. The town treasurer shall act as treasurer of the board of trustees until the town otherwise directs.

SECTION 8. The board shall have the custody and management of the library and reading room and of all property owned by the town relating thereto. All money raised or appropriated by the town for its support and maintenance shall be expended by the board, and all money or property which the town may receive by gift or bequest for said library and reading room shall be administered by the board in accordance with the provisions of such gift or bequest.

SECTION 9. The board shall make an annual report to the town of its receipts and expenditures and of the property in its custody, with a statement of any unexpended balance of money and of any gifts or bequests which it holds in behalf of the town, with its recommendations.

SECTION 10. The provisions of the three preceding sections shall not apply to library associations, nor to a library organized under a special act.

BOARD OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS.

SECTION 11. There shall be a board of free public library commissioners consisting of five persons, residents of the commonwealth, one of whom shall annually be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for a term of five years. The governor shall designate the chairman thereof.

SECTION 12. No member shall receive any compensation, but the board may annually expend not more than five hundred dollars, payable by the commonwealth, for clerical assistance and for other necessary expenses. It shall annually in January make a report to the general court.

SECTION 13. The board shall advise the librarian or trustees of any free public library relative to the selection or cataloguing of books and any other matter pertaining to the maintenance or administration of the library.

SECTION 14. Said board may, upon the application of the library trustees of a town which has complied with the provisions of sections sixteen and seventeen, and which has no free public library owned and controlled by the town, expend not more than one hundred dollars for books to be selected and purchased by said board and delivered to said trustees for the purpose of establishing a free public library.

SECTION 15. If a town, the valuation of which is not more than six hundred thousand dollars and which has a free public library, has complied with all laws relative to the maintenance of such library, and the trustees of the library provide, to the satisfaction of the board, for the distribution of books in different parts of the town where such distribution is necessary, by means of branch libraries or deliveries, and for practical and effective means of rendering the library useful to the teachers and scholars of the public schools in such town, the board may expend, in such amounts and at such times as they determine, not more than one hundred dollars for the purchase of books for each free public library owned and controlled by such town.

SECTION 16. A town shall not be entitled to the benefits of the three preceding sections until it accepts the same or has accepted the corresponding provisions of earlier laws and has elected a board of library trustees as provided in section seven, nor until said trustees have made provision satisfactory to said commissioners for the care and distribution of the books furnished by them.

SECTION 17. Such town shall, if its last assessed valuation was one million dollars or over, annually appropriate from the dog tax, or otherwise provide for the use and maintenance of its free public library, not

less than fifty dollars; if such valuation was less than one million dollars and not less than two hundred and fifty thousand, not less than twenty-five dollars; and if such valuation was less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, not less than fifteen dollars.

ACTS OF 1906, CHAPTER 183.

AN ACT TO AID FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE SMALL TOWNS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

The board of free public library commissioners may annually expend a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars in aid of free public libraries, especially in those towns the valuation of which does not exceed six hundred thousand dollars. Such aid may include the furnishing of books in small quantities, visits to libraries, the instruction of librarians, and such other means of encouraging and stimulating the small libraries as said commissioners shall deem advisable: *provided*, that a full detail of expenditures under this act shall be printed in the annual report of the commissioners.

APPROPRIATION OF MONEY FOR LIBRARIES, ETC.

Section 15, chapter 25 of the Revised Laws, provides that towns may appropriate money "for the establishment, maintenance or increase of a public library therein, and for the erection or provision of suitable buildings or rooms therefor."

"For maintaining a library therein to which the inhabitants have free access and of which they have the use, and for establishing and maintaining a public reading room in connection with and under the control of the managers of such library."

THE DOG TAX.

Section 163, chapter 102 of the Revised Laws, provides that money received for dog licenses and refunded to the towns "shall be expended for the support of public libraries or schools."

DEFACING OR WILFUL DETENTION OF BOOKS, PAPERS, ETC.

Sections 83 and 84, chapter 208 of the Revised Laws, provide that "whoever wilfully, intentionally and without right, or wantonly and without cause, writes upon, injures, defaces, tears or destroys a book, plate, picture, engraving, map, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, manuscript or statue which belongs to a law, city, town or other public or incorporated library shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months."

“Whoever wilfully, intentionally and without right, or wantonly and without cause, detains a book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, or manuscript which belongs to a law, city, town or other public or incorporated library for thirty days after notice in writing from the librarian thereof, containing a copy of this section and given after the expiration of the time which, by the regulations of such library, such book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet or manuscript may be kept, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than twenty-five dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months.”

DISTURBING PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Section 33, chapter 212 of the Revised Laws, provides that “whoever wilfully disturbs persons assembled in a public library, or a reading room connected therewith, by making a noise or in any other manner during the time when such library or reading room is open to the public shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or by a fine of not more than fifty dollars.”

LAND MAY BE TAKEN FOR LIBRARY BUILDINGS.

Section 47 of chapter 25 of the Revised Laws provides that “any land within the limits of a city or town not appropriated to public uses” may be taken “for the purpose of erecting thereon a building to be used for a public school, a library, or an engine house, or for the enlargement of a lot of land taken or used for such purpose,” — but the land thus taken may not exceed two acres in extent.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Under provisions of chapter 9 of the Revised Laws, each town and city library is entitled to receive a copy of the Manual of the General Court, the Blue Book, and a copy of the series of public documents.

